

Hafa Adai!

Man pleads guilty to sex offense. **PAGE 2**

No street market until late July. **PAGE 9**

75¢

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Disaster relief bill now law

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The CNMI is set to receive more federal disaster aid after President Donald J. Trump signed H.R. 268 yesterday, allocating a total of \$19 billion for states and U.S. territories that were recently hit by natural disasters.

» More funding for NMI recovery

H.R. 268, introduced by Rep. Nita M. Lowey (D-NY), passed the U.S. House of Representatives with a 354-58 margin and went to the White

See **DISASTER** on **Page 4**

9th Circuit affirms Phan conviction

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the conviction of businessman David Trung Quoc Phan over his

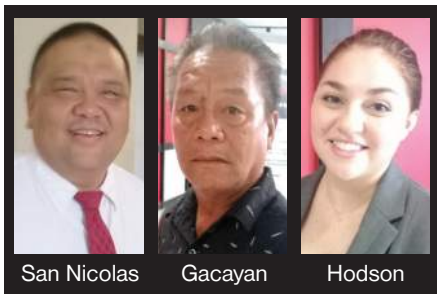


Phan

role in a scheme to bring Bangladeshi men to Saipan on promises of jobs and green cards in exchange for cash.

Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Sid-

See **PHAN** on **Page 4**



San Nicolas

Gacayan

Hodson

TO RESOLVE INHERITANCE ISSUE

Lawyer says Gacayan will work with dead man's heirs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The former employer and appointed administrator of the estate of deceased Eduardo Ocampo David

will be working with David's heirs to resolve as to who will inherit the \$20,794 that David left in a bank account.

At a status conference yesterday morning, Juan A. Gacayan's lawyer,

Joey P. San Nicolas, advised Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho that they would be responding to the judge's question whether Gacayan is an heir or not.

See **LAWYER** on **Page 4**



TECH-EQUIPPED TEACHERS

The "Ed Tech" program participants and instructors pose for a group photo last Wednesday at Kanoa Resort's Seaside Hall.

REICA RAMIREZ

Story on **Page 5**

LibDay festivities kick off next Thursday

Get ready, Marianas!

It's that time of the year again for the islands' signature event, as the CNMI Liberation Day festivities kick off next Thursday, June 27, starting at

6pm at the Garapan Fishing Base.

This year's theme is "Marianas Strong," celebrating resiliency and freedom. The festivities will run from next Thursday through July 6, 2019.

"The Marianas has remained resilient in the face of great change," said Mayor David M. Apatang. "From the liberation of Camp Susupe, to our fight for self-determination, to the creation of a Commonwealth in political union with the United States,

and through some of the worst storms on record, our people overcame the greatest odds in order to build a unique community that is rich in culture and stronger than any typhoon."

Liberation Day Committee chair

See **LIBDAY** on **Page 4**

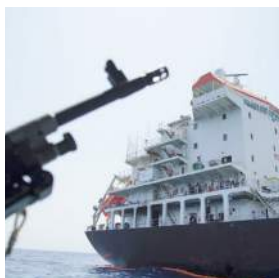
INSIDE



LOCAL

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation is on board with the Miss Earth Northern Marianas pageant.

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WORLD

The mines used to attack a Japanese oil tanker near the Strait of Hormuz resembles mines in Iran.

PAGE 23



LIFE & STYLE

A songwriting team is suing country singer Carrie Underwood, saying she stole a song.

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Local

Man pleads guilty to sex offense

A man pleaded guilty last Wednesday to the accusation that he pleased himself in pub-

lic in front of a woman's window without her knowledge.

Robert S. Lacanlale informed

the court last Wednesday that he would like to change his initial plea of not guilty to guilty, pursuant to a plea agreement between him and the prosecution.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho, however, did not accept Lacanlale's plea because he wanted the opposing parties to elaborate on who the victim was in the case because the woman on the other side of the window was not aware of the incident but another person saw it and captured it on video.

Although Lacanlale's lawyer, Jean Pierre Nogues of the Office of the Public Defender, insisted that it did not matter who the victim is because his client is voluntarily pleading guilty, Camacho said he would still move the matter to a later date for both parties to further explain the charges.

Camacho set the plea agreement hearing for June 26 at the Marianas Business Plaza.

According to the government, Lacanlale looked into the window of a woman who was not aware of his presence, exposed his genitals, and pleased himself outside her window.

Lacanlale was later caught by another individual outside the residence who filmed the act and was allegedly streaming the video live. (Kimberly A. Bautista)

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NEWS BRIEFS**Miss Earth 2019 set for tomorrow**

The kick-off for the first-ever Miss Earth Northern Marianas is all set, according to Exquisite Productions Marianas LLC president Diana Clayton. The pageant will be held tomorrow at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom.

The competition's motto is "Beauties for a cause."

The contestants are Nicole Malakai, Leisha Deleon Guerrero, Joanna Navarro, Mary Joy Masongsong, Jessme Jones, Jan Zowie Cruz, Pheona David, and Katherine Johnson.

The eight contestants will be going head-to-head for the title of Miss Earth Northern Marianas and the chance to represent the CNMI at the upcoming Miss Earth International pageant.

The top four contestants will be called Miss Fire (third runner-up), Miss Water (second runner-up), Miss Air (first runner-up), and Miss Earth Northern Mariana Islands.

Exquisite Productions Marianas aims to make the pageant an annual competition.

Tickets are available at Megabyte Saipan and Latte Built 24-Hour Fitness & Nutrition. Ticket holders are reminded that doors will

open at 5pm tomorrow. The pageant will begin at 6pm. *(Marc Venus)*

Rotary to install new president on Tuesday

The Rotary Club of Saipan will be installing its new officers on Tuesday, June 25, at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

President-elect Marcia Ayuyu will be replacing current president Greg Borja. Each Rotarian presidential term lasts one year.

Borja described 2018 as a difficult year, but it ended well. He gave credit to all the Rotarians for working together during the difficult times. He is excited to have Ayuyu as president.

One highlight in Borja's term was the Las Vegas Night, with the club netting over \$34,000. "Of course, I couldn't have done it myself... I needed the support from our club members and including our youth members from other activities," Borja added.

This will be Ayuyu's first

year as president.

The Rotary Club of Saipan's theme this year is "To be the inspiration." *(Marc Venus)*

Registration for JKPL Kids Summer Program closed

Registration for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Summer Reading Program is closed.

According to acting director Rosalinda Ulloa, the number of available slots was filled last Wednesday, June 19. Registration that began last May 29 was to

end on June 29, or until slots were filled.

"We are surprised that slots were filled ahead of time," Ulloa said.

The summer program, called 2019 Summer Reading Program for Kids, will have two sessions by age groups: session 1 (ages 6 to 8) and session 2 (ages 9 to 12). Both camps will be from July 9 to July 19, with session 1 from 8:30am to 11:30am and session 2 from 12:30pm to 3pm.

This summer program helps

children enhance their literacy skills and enjoy reading.

An ongoing program, JKPL Teens/Adults Summer Reading Program 2019, is also open for teenagers and adults. It started last April 13 and ends on Aug. 2. Registration is free and is still accepted. Interested patrons must have a valid JKPL library card without pending fees/fines.

For more information, visit the JKPL or call librarians Rosalinda, Celine, or Leora at (670) 235-7315 or (670) 235-7322. *(Marc Venus)*

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Deadline to register for SCC-ITS workshop today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions will be hosting a training on time management at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room (Marianas Business Plaza, third floor, Suite 315) on June 26, from 9am to 12pm. The deadline

to register is today, June 21. Registration fee is \$50 per person for Chamber members and \$55 per person for non-members. Light refreshments are included. Raffle prizes donated by Pacifica Insurance will be raffled throughout the training. Reservations and advance payment are required as seating is limited. To register, call 670-234-7150 or email coordinator2@saipanchamber.com. (PR)

DISASTER

From Page 1

House after an 85-5 vote, despite attempts by several Republicans to block the legislation due to immigration issues.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres thanked Trump for continuously assisting the CNMI with its recovery efforts after two devastating storms hit the Commonwealth in a span of almost two months.

Rota was hit by Typhoon Mangkhut, while Super Typhoon Yutu left significant damage on Saipan and Tinian, with both islands still trying to pick up the pieces.

"I want to personally thank President Trump for again... assisting [the] CNMI and [other] territories [with] our needs," said Torres. "This is additional funding for Medic-

aid, disaster relief funds, and other resources that will assist us here. This is true partnership and I'm sure that he will continue to assist our people and CNMI."

H.R. 268 is a \$19-billion federal aid legislation that would help U.S. jurisdictions—states and territories—that were hit by natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, storms, typhoons, and wildfires.

Funding for research and disaster-prevention efforts are also included in the legislation, which is now known as Public Law 116-20 or the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019.

The CNMI will be receiving \$25.2 million in emergency disaster nutrition relief through Sept. 30, 2020, to help address needs in response to the presidentially declared

Ortizo is on University of Delaware's dean's list

NEWARK, Delaware—Michael Roy Ortizo of Saipan has been named to the University of Delaware's dean's list for the spring 2019 semester.

To meet eligibility requirements for the dean's list, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.33 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester. (PR)

major disasters and emergencies, including needs following Yutu.

American Samoa is eligible to receive an additional \$18 million in disaster nutrition assistance as made available under Section 18 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

An additional \$129 million in disaster relief funds will also be made available to the CNMI through Community Development Block Grants-Disaster Recovery Grants, and other federal grants. The CNMI can expect at least \$50 million from the CDBG-DR, aside from the \$100 million already allocated from previous legislation that was passed last year.

The CNMI will also receive an additional \$36 million in Medicaid funds, also referred to as the Section 1108 allotment of the Social Secu-

JRM to participate in Exercise Citadel Pacific

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas, U.S. Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base will participate in Exercise Citadel Pacific 2019 on June 24-28.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the training, readiness and capability of Navy security forces to respond to threats to Navy installations and units. CP-19 is

not in response to any specific threat but is a regularly scheduled exercise.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations, but there may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around bases or delays in base access. Area residents may also see increased security activity associated with the exercise.

As part of the exercise, the Giant Voice systems on both installations will be activated, and residents in surrounding areas of the GV speakers will hear exercise announcements regarding force protection conditions throughout the week. The use of the GV

Act. This is the maximum amount of funding the CNMI may receive from the federal government in Medicaid allotments through the remainder of fiscal year 2019. The Federal Medical Assistance Percentages match waiver is also applicable to this funding through the remainder of fiscal year 2019

Torres, in an earlier statement, said this was also the result of the continuing collaboration between his administration and the Office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP). "It covers additional requests for federal assistance that our office has worked with the Congressional Office since the typhoon. We look forward to using this funding to rebuild our homes and our lives, as well as build a stronger Marianas," he had said.

Phan, who has never been married and has no children, died without leaving a will. Gacayan wants to inherit David's money in the Bank of Guam, telling the court in his petition, which he then filed without a lawyer, that David had given him instruction that the money should be given to him.

In a recent order to show cause, Camacho ordered Gacayan to explain at a hearing how a non-family individual can inherit money from a decedent without a will.

This prompted Gacayan to hire San Nicolas as his new counsel last Thursday. Gacayan's original counsel, Rosemond Santos, withdrew earlier from the case.

carnival grounds next Thursday, June 27, at 6pm at the Garapan Fishing Base.

The carnival will be open every night at 6pm beginning next Thursday.

The 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Committee will be providing more updates of the festivities and the annual Liberation Day parade and entertainment lineup.

For more information, visit saipanmayor.net or the 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CNMILiberationDay. (PR)

Although Phan's factual theory may have been plausible, the jury rejected it, the judges said.

system adds realism to the exercise. (PR)

Weightlifting contest on July 27

The 2019 CNMI Weightlifting Championship will be held on July 27, a Saturday, at the Minachom Attao pavilion in Susupe, starting at 10am. Registration deadline is noon of June 25, 2019, with the registration documents to be delivered to Greg Borja or Jeanne Rayphand at the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc. office in Gualo Rai. Entry fee is \$10, while the admission fee is \$5. For more information, contact Borja at 787 6642 or Rayphand at 287-9807. (PR)

PHAN

From Page 1

ney R. Thomas and judges Consuelo M. Callahan and Morgan Christen issued the decision Wednesday without holding an oral argument in Phan's appeal.

The Ninth Circuit judges said the evidence presented a trial supported a permissible inference of fraudulent intent.

The judges also ruled that the misstatements and inconsistencies in some of the witnesses' testimony gave the jury reason to find the witnesses not credible, but they did not compel the jury to reject their testimony.

In October 2017, a federal jury convicted Phan of two counts of mail fraud, three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting, and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

In March 2018, U.S. District Court for the NMI designate Judge John C. Coughenour sentenced Phan to eight months in prison. Phan appealed to the Ninth Circuit.

In his appeal, Phan asked the Ninth Circuit to reverse his conviction, argued that the evidence was insufficient to show fraudulent intent.

Phan was convicted of mail fraud relating to the submission of CW-1 renewal applications, fraud in foreign labor contracting, and use or possession of immigration documents procured by fraud relating to his obtaining a renewed CW-1 permit.

In affirming the conviction, the Ninth Circuit judges said that Phan essentially reargues the factual theory he presented to the jury that he did not know the workers recruited from Bangladesh lacked the skills needed to work in an auto repair shop until after they arrived and that he reduced their pay only because they lacked the necessary skills.

On fraudulent intent, the judges noted as an example that the victims testified that, when they confronted Phan about not having work, he told them that his only role was to bring them to Saipan, whereas it was the responsibility of Muksedur Rahman, Phan's co-defendant, to find them jobs.

Rahman has already been convicted and sentenced to 48 months in prison.

The judges said Phan admitted to federal agents that he filed renewal petitions for the victims' CW-1 visas even though they no longer work for him, and the victims testified that Phan collected a fee for this service.

The judges said Phan's business also paid the victims differently (less than minimum wage, in cash, and without tax withholdings) than it did the company's legitimate CW-1 workers (at least minimum wage, by check, and with tax withholding).

"This and other evidence support an inference of fraudulent intent," said the judges in their decision.

Phan also argued that the District Court erred in denying his motion for a new trial because, according to him, the jury's verdict was against the great weight of the evidence.

The Ninth Circuit judges said this argument focuses on misstatements and inconsistencies in some of the witnesses' testimony and on unspecified problems with translation of the witnesses' testimony.

The judges said that, as the District Court correctly observed, issues of witness credibility were for the jury to decide.

The judges said Phan's counsel had enough opportunity at trial to attack the witnesses' credibility, and the District Court instructed the jury on witness credibility.

The District Court allowed Phan's continued release while his appeal is pending.

The third defendant, Rafiqul Islam, has also been convicted and sentenced to 18 months in prison.

LAWYER

From Page 1

San Nicolas said they look forward to working with Charity R. Hodson and all who are interested in the probate of David's estate.

Hodson appeared at the hearing as counsel for David's Philippine-based siblings—Maria Gina O. David-Cuenco, Monlisa Ocampo David, Marlene Ocampo David Jr., Elizabeth Ocampo David-Sta. Ana, and Olivia Ocampo David.

Hodson informed the court that the siblings had entered an appearance to claim the money.

Under the rules, an inheri-

tance will generally go to the family of a decedent.

In an interview after the status conference, San Nicolas said, "At this point, what I would say is that we are interested in working with the heirs to resolve this matter." He refused to elaborate.

In a separate interview, Hodson said the siblings' next move would depend on what Gacayan, through San Nicolas, will submit in court in response to the judge's order to show cause.

"I'm pretty sure [we're going to] discuss the matter together to figure out [a] settlement," Hodson said.

Hodson said they are not planning to replace Gacayan as the administrator of Da-

vid's estate.

She said they have not started discussion yet with San Nicolas as she had just entered her appearance as counsel for David's siblings.

Hodson said it was the siblings' family friend who contacted her to serve as their counsel in this case.

Gacayan, who owns a construction company, also appeared in court. He refused to comment at the advice of his counsel.

Gacayan is the last employer of David, who was an electrician. David died at the age of 60 at the Commonwealth Health Center on Oct. 15, 2018, more than a week after having a cardiac arrest. His remains were flown to the Philippines last

because of the sacrifices of our ancestors and those who fought bravely for our islands."

Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva invites all families, friends, and tourists of the CNMI to the Liberation Day festivities.

"We have prepared a great lineup of entertainment, new carnival games, and several sweet and savory food items," Villanueva said. "Our 73rd Liberation Festivities theme, 'Marianas Strong,' will be seen throughout our grounds and our parade. Let

us celebrate, but most importantly, remember our history and culture."

Press secretary Kevin Bautista, who is also the committee's marketing and public relations chairman, said this year's theme "is a celebration of our story as a community and represents the spirit of *inafa'maolek* and *tipiyeew* that will guide our islands toward the future."

The 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Committee invite the public to the opening ceremony of the Liberation Day

LIBDAY

From Page 1

Joe Ayuyu Jr. said that that resiliency "represents our story of struggle, triumph, and love."

"The struggle to build a brighter future for the next generation, the triumph over the biggest of challenges, and the love we have for our families and friends represent the continuing story of the Marianas," Ayuyu added. "Freedom represents the opportunities we enjoy today

Teachers learn new techniques

The seventh batch of the Public School System's "Ed Tech" completed their courses last Wednesday at Kanoa Resort's Seaside Hall, equipping them with the skills and tools needed to use technology in their classrooms to improve student learning.

"This program allows our teachers and educators to have the skills to incorporate technology to improve student engagement," said PSS Instructional Technology director Bobby Cruz.

The "Ed Tech" cohort program started in 2012. Since the launch of the program, teachers have been "using technology more effectively in their classrooms," said PSS Distance Education program manager Lorraine Catienza.

Because of Super Typhoon Yutu, this cohort had to start in February. "This cohort is special because we packed a one year [program] into a matter of four months...[for a total of] 225 professional learning hours," Catienza said.

The participants agreed about the huge commitment to the program.

San Vicente Elementary School teacher William Harwood felt "intimidated" because he was not "tech-savvy." However, he is looking forward to implementing what he learned. "I would say I was an old school teacher, who likes lectures and textbooks. To bring technology into the classroom is really going to help the kids become more interested in learning," Harwood added.

Saipan International School teacher Tricia Gleason said it was "refreshing" to learn familiar and new things to implement in her teachings.

Mount Carmel School teacher Julian Greening learned "valuable technological skills" that he never learned until he started the program. Greening knows the tools he learned will "definitely change" how he teaches.

Cruz is very proud of the participants' perseverance and resilience throughout the year. "Despite enduring a super typhoon, continuing through a season of recovery, and going back to [damaged] schools, the teachers still put teaching at the forefront of their priorities. They committed to a very challenging program and they finished it."

The "Ed Tech" instructors were Francine Cruz, Jonathan Aguon, Lynn Mendiola, Carla Sablan, Jocelyn Manibusan, Frank Borja, Antenille Santos, Leah Murphy, Francis Mendiola, Karen Camacho, Bonny Cruz, Riya Nathrani, Paul Salalila, Karen Alla, and Dionne Santos. *(Reica Ramirez)*

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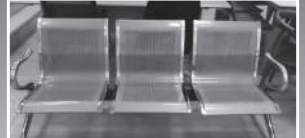
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Attao wants expedited passage of budget bill

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao (R-Saipan) has asked the Ways and Means Committee to get the CNMI budget bill ready for action in next week's session.

Ways and Means chair Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) has scheduled a 4pm meeting today where he and the 12 other committee members are expected to come up with a final product.

The total local revenue and resources available for appropriation went to \$148.8 million from \$147.1 million—an increase of over \$1.7 million based on House Concurrent Resolution 21-1, Senate Draft 1.

Attao told *Saipan Tribune* that they hope to transmit the budget bill to the Senate as soon as they pass it, “so they can act on it sooner.”

“If we had to go into conference committee, we can actually take care of the concerns even prior to any worries of a looming shutdown that might be brought up in the future,” Attao said.

He added that having the

budget passed by the Legislature—House and Senate—is their No. 1 priority. “We have a constitutional mandate to pass the budget and have it signed into law before Oct. 1 [the start of fiscal year 2020]. Failing to do that, we’re going to have a government shutdown. As much as possible we don’t want to worry about getting to that point. That’s why we want to get the budget out of the House before the month ends.”

Attao pointed out that, after the budget, they still face the daunting task of ending the government austerity. “We still have the difficult task of finding the needed resources to get our people out of this austerity measure. And we are also looking at angles and solutions to get to that point to get us out of austerity now and prevent any of it in the future.”

He added that the House will hold a session on Monday, but passing the budget is not part of the agenda. “We still have some stuff that’s on calendar that we’re going to take care off. We also have the concurrent resolution that was

adopted by the Senate. The Senate made some amendments on [C.R. 21-1] and we have to adopt that version.”

“We have to provide the [Office of the] Governor an adjusted ceiling on the resolution so they can concur with it. Then we will move on with the budget. Our target is next week on June 27, Thursday, to specifically entertain the budget.”

In a separate interview yesterday, Blanco said that Attao wants to get the budget bill done as fast as possible. “The

committee is...trying to have an end product from the House that the Senate can work on next month, where they have a month to discuss it.”

“Speaker Attao wants to call a session next week. We’re meeting [today] and hope to adopt the budget bill at the committee level, then file it by Monday. Then the speaker can call a session, either by Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday. The Legislative Bureau is working on the final draft,” Blanco said.

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-

Saipan), one of the two members of the minority bloc that are part of the Ways and Means Committee, thanked Blanco for always reaching out to them to hear their concerns and get their opinion.

“Chair Blanco has always been very collaborative and has always been open to accepting ideas from the minority. He’s willing to put these ideas up to the committee. We appreciate that about him and his leadership,” Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

FEMA: CNMI situation is uncommon

The Federal Emergency Management Agency faced a lot of citizenship and eligibility issues in the CNMI when it comes to receiving federal aid and assistance, especially after disasters like Typhoon Soudelor in 2015 and Typhoon Mangkhut on Rota and Super Typhoon Yutu on Saipan and Tinian last year.

“The citizenship and eligibility issues here in the CNMI are a bit challenging and not as common in the [U.S.] main-

land. Each individual case must be considered based on its own merit,” FEMA Office of External Affairs representative Todd Hoose told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hoose was responding to reports that some guest workers who were previously approved to receive federal assistance were later told to give back the cash aid awarded them due to eligibility issues, like not being U.S. citizens or green card holders, or they have no son or daughter who

was born in the CNMI.

These incidents involving guest workers, who are under the CNMI-Only Transitional visa or CW-1, also happened during Typhoon Soudelor in 2015 where FEMA asked disaster survivors, who were ineligible, to return the money they got.

“Not everyone who is living in CNMI and who was affected by the disaster will be eligible for FEMA assistance because there are laws that require FEMA’s compliance. FEMA assistance is provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988,” states FEMA information, as provided by Hoose.

“The Stafford Act was passed by Congress and was meant to supplement the efforts of the state and to provide an orderly and continuing means of assistance by the federal government to state and local governments in carrying out their responsibilities to alleviate the suffering and damage which result from such disasters.”

Those eligible are U.S. citizens and nationals and qualified alien that falls under the legal permanent resident category or referred to as a green card. Qualified aliens may also be lawfully admitted permanent residents or was granted asylum or a refugee, or a humanitarian parolee for at least one year.

CW-1 visa holders are workers who are allowed temporary employment in the CNMI. Employers apply foreign non-immigrant workers to earn CW-1 status if they are ineligible for other non-immigrant worker visa categories. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services had already informed FEMA that CW-1 workers are not qualified aliens.

FEMA, however, said that if a member of a guest workers’ household is a U.S. citizen or a national or a qualified alien—having a child born in the CNMI that is a citizen—then they could be considered eligible to receive assistance. (Jon Perez)

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Masilungan, Calayo lead GCA's 24 graduates

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marcelo Masilungan Jr. and Justine Calayo led the Grace Christian Academy's high school Class of 2019 during commencement exercises held in early June at the school's chapel and auditorium.

Masilungan, who was named class valedictorian, is heading to Cypress College in Cypress, California, where he would be majoring in both computer engineering and electrical engineering.

The class salutatorian, Calayo, would be heading to Temple University and is planning to major in either art or communication studies.

Looking back at his time as a basketball player for GCA, Masilungan shared in his valedictory speech how being a player on life.



MARCELO MASILUNGAN JR.
Valedictorian
(High School)



JUSTINE CALAYO
Salutatorian
(High School)

affected his outlook

"If you take no risks, you will suffer no defeats. But if you take no risks, you win no victories," he said quoting former U.S. president Richard Nixon.

"Had I not tried out for the team, I would have been spared the injuries and the constant worrying over the possible rejection from that basketball team and the upcoming basketball games," he said. "How-



EARLJEAN JONATHAN PANTALEON
Valedictorian
(Elementary)



BEATRICE RAYZA FABRE
Salutatorian
(Elementary)

can say that each shortcoming helped me to understand myself and the lessons that come with it."

Calayo noted in her speech how comparisons are often toxic. "...I realized that personal success is different from person to person. Someone else's definition of success will likely be very different from my own—and that's fine," she said.

"I have learned that worrying too much is very unproductive. It is very good to plan...But too much planning can lead to overthinking," she added. "I learned and am still learning that if you stay too much in your head, nothing will get done."

GCA also honored their elementary valedictorian, Earljean Jonathan Pantaleon, and elementary salutatorian, Beatrice Rayza Fabre, while also



KALEY JEAN DILSE
Eagle Award
(High School)



AASISH DANGOL
Eagle Award
(Elementary)

ever, I would not have experienced the camaraderie of my teammates, the thrill of competition, and the joy that accompanies victory."

Recalling a painful loss in eighth grade, Masilungan credits that failure and others for helping him improve.

"Failure happens all the time. It happens every day in practice. What makes you better is how you react to it," he said quoting Mia Hamm, a retired professional soccer player. "After failing to achieve the championship title year in and year out, I cannot say that it is the best feeling in the world or that I am numb to these kinds of situations, but I

awarding high school Eagle awardee Kaley Jean Dilse and elementary Eagle awardee Aasish Dangol during the graduation.

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No street market until late July

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There would be no street market at the Garapan Fishing Base until late July 2019 to make way for the 2019 Liberation Day festivities.

Commonwealth Council of Arts and Culture executive director Parker Yobei noted in an interview yesterday that the Thursday night street market was suspended starting yesterday and would remain suspended until July 18 to make way for the 2019 Liberation Day festivities.

He clarified that while the Liberation Day festivities is from June 27 up to July 6, 2019, there would be a one-week cushion to allow for both the preparations and clearing of the tents and equipment used for the festivities.

"The Liberation [Day] activities are going to be held at the Garapan Fishing Base, so we have to cancel the street market for the duration of the Liberation Day activities," he said. "[The street market is] coming back on July 18, 2019."

Yobei noted that the usual street market vendors have already been notified of the changes.

"We talked to our vendors and they do understand," he said, adding that most of the vendors that participate in the weekly street market would also be participating in the Liberation Day festivities.

The weekly street market consists of over 37 vendors in the mini-festival—27 of which are food vendors and 10 non-food vendors.

Man who sexually assaulted minor sentenced to prison

A man who is accused of touching a minor's buttocks pleaded guilty to the allegations and was sentenced to six months imprisonment.

Roland Joseph Sablan, 52, pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a minor Wednesday and was given six months imprisonment, all suspended except for 30 days that he is ordered to serve without possibility of parole. Sablan was also given credit for one day.

During a change of plea

hearing Wednesday, Sablan was given the opportunity to explain his side of the story. Sablan told the court that he only pinched the girl's buttocks.

Sablan will be placed on probation for a year and required to pay fines and perform 80 hours of community service.

Sablan was arrested last April for touching the buttocks of a 17-year-old girl on Jan 20, 2019. *(Kimberly A. Bautista)*



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NMC: We are preparing for typhoon season

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Officials of the Northern Marianas College said yesterday that they are taking proactive steps to prepare for this year's typhoon season.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico noted that the college is taking steps to prepare for a possible super typhoon, as projected by the National Weather Service in Guam.

"We had engaged the [NWS] and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-

ministration," he said, noting that the NWS did a presentation on the predictions for the 2019 wet season, which reported that there is a projected 50-percent chance of a more active-than-normal season this year and that this year's wet season would be similar to 2018's.

Super Typhoon Yutu struck Saipan and Tinian in late October 2018, while Rota was left limping after Typhoon Mangkhut struck last September 2018.

According to NMC facili-

ties director Vincent Merfarlen, all 27 NMC buildings sustained damage from Super Typhoon Yutu. He noted that there are currently four buildings that were repaired permanently and three buildings have received temporary repairs and are already being used.

By the end of summer 2019, there would be a total of eight NMC buildings in use, he added.

Eliptico noted that he had asked for 10 slots to be allocated for NMC employees

to participate in an upcoming tropical cyclone, disaster preparedness, and climate workshop in mid-July 2019.

Both the NWS and the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management would hold the workshop.

"Our team would be participating in [the workshop] to better anticipate what [might be] coming and to help make sure our team is better prepared," said Eliptico.

In the meantime, Eliptico noted, a plan to relocate the 24 temporary classrooms that the Federal Emergency Management Agency built for

the college is being mulled.

"[NMC is] making sure that we have plans to relocate the equipment that is stored within the [temporary structures] into our permanent build-

ings once an oncoming storm has been announced," he said. Super Typhoon Yutu damaged all 27 buildings of NMC. Notably, the typhoon fully destroyed the nursing laboratory of the college.



Eliptico

Eliptico noted that the equipment housed in the temporary classroom tents include computers and other furniture.

He noted that the college also tells students of any changes in class schedules through the student email system and other media outlets.

"NMC is taking all precautions necessary for the [upcoming] storm season," Eliptico said.

Habitual offender gets multiple sentences

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

The Superior Court imposed yesterday multiple suspended sentences on a habitual offender who was recently imprisoned for assault and battery.

Mario O. Sablan, who has been on probation for criminal charges that date back to 2012, was sentenced to three years and nine months for three previous felonies involving theft or conspiracy to commit theft.

The sentences would all run concurrent with one another, meaning that, all in all, he'd be serving three years. He was given credit for the six months he had already served for his recent criminal misdemeanor, assault and battery, that would also run concurrent with the other three sentences.

The sentence for 2018 was one year, all suspended except for time served.

Sablan was imprisoned for three other cases prior to the 2018 criminal misdemeanor. The three prior charges involved theft or conspiracy to commit theft. One of the cases took place in 2012, one in

2015, and one in 2017.

The 2012 sentence had four years suspended in case he violated probation, the 2015 case had nine months, and the 2017 had five years suspended. Because Sablan violated his probation multiple times, the court opted to impose all the suspended sentences to run concurrent with one another.

The court, however, suspended by one year the 2012 sentence and by two years the 2017 sentence.

The suspended sentence would be imposed if Sablan violates probation once he completes the time he is sentenced to serve, a little over two years.

Sablan would also be placed under three years of probation once he is released and he is also eligible for parole and work release as requested.

Sablan is a former drug court participant before he was terminated for consuming alcohol and also assaulting another drug court participant back in 2018.

Sablan also committed theft by stealing copper wires from Best Sunshine.

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Babauta is named State Star Performer

Nicole Babauta was recently honored by the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network.

Babauta, as director and business adviser of the CNMI Small Business Development Center, was recognized as the 2019 State Star for the Micronesian Region.

The PISBDCN is the umbrella for all small business centers in the region consisting of Guam, CNMI, Chuuk, Kosrae, Yap, and Palau.

State Star Performers are chosen based on nomination submitted by over 63 Lead Centers in all 50 States, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Pacific Islands. This award recognizes business advisers and staff in the SBDC program who have demonstrated exemplary work performance, significant contribution to the organization's economic development efforts, and a strong commitment to small businesses.

Babauta will be honored at the SBDC conference in Long Beach, California, in September 2019.

Babauta was born and raised on Saipan. She holds an associate degree in Liberal Arts from the Northern Marianas College, a bachelor of science degree in Business Management with an emphasis in Global Business

Management, and a master's degree in Business Administration both from the University of Phoenix.

Babauta has worked at Hyatt Regency Saipan, United Services Automobile Association, and DFS Saipan Ltd.

She is a member of the CNMI State Workforce Development Board, a member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and is chair of the Education and Workforce Committee and co-chair of the Saipan Young Professionals, and a member of the Society for Human Resources NMI Chapter.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres noted that the CNMI SBDC was recognized as a center of the year in Micronesia and expressed his gratitude to Babauta's performance.

"Last month, the PISBDCN recognized the challenges our region faced but with the strong collaboration between the government sector and the private sector, our businesses are recovering," Torres said.

According to Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauli-

man, the SBDC has become a critical component to promoting business development in the CNMI. "I congratulate...Babauta and the entire SBDC network. ... This recognition is well-deserved and truly representative of the benefits made to our community."

The CNMI SBDC is hosted by the CNMI Department of Commerce and is currently staffed by Babauta and office manager Lorena Pangilinan who has been with the CNMI SBDC since 2014.

The CNMI SBDC offers one-to-one confidential small business counseling, small business training, and community outreach. Visit www.pacificsbdc.com or contact 664-3018 for more information on SBDC. (PR)

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Siu Lin Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, fifth from left, leads the presentation of the ceremonial check donation to Exquisite Productions Marianas officials for the first-ever Miss Earth Northern Marianas pageant that will be held tomorrow at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

TSLF supports '19 Miss Earth Northern Marianas pageant

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation is on board with Exquisite Productions Marianas for the first-ever staging of the Miss Earth Northern Marianas pageant.

The TSL Foundation, the charity arm of TanHoldings Corp., donated \$2,500 for the pageant that will be held tomorrow, June 22, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom (the former Sandcastle), starting at 6pm. Eight candidates will be vying for the Miss Earth Northern Marianas 2019 crown and the honor to lead its advocacy for the preservation and protection of the environment.

"Congratulations to Exquisite Productions Marianas for bringing the Miss Earth pageant to the Marianas. We are one with Miss Earth Northern Marianas pageant in raising awareness and organizing projects that aim to protect our environment," said TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan. "We are fortunate to live [on] a beautiful island and we must keep it that way for future generations."

Exquisite Productions Marianas president Dee Clayton is pleased to have the TSL Foundation and other members of the business community as supporters of the inaugural pageant.

"On behalf of Exquisite Productions Marianas officials, we would like to welcome the Tan Siu Lin Foundation as one of our sponsors. We thank them for their gener-

osity and support," Clayton said. "We look forward to our continued partnership, as we promote environmental awareness and love for our beautiful home island through this pageant."

The Miss Earth Northern Marianas 2019 candidates are Nicole Malakai, Leisha Deleon Guerrero, Joanna Navarro, Mary Joy Masongsong, Jessme Jones, Jan Zowie Cruz, Pheona David, and Kat Johnson. Four crowns representing earth, air, fire, and water would be handed out, along with the Miss Earth Northern Marianas 2019 title. This year's Miss Earth Northern Marianas will represent the Commonwealth at the 19th Miss Earth in November, with the venue yet to be announced.

Besides preparing for the pageant, the eight candidates kept themselves busy with leading and participating in activities—such as tree planting and beach cleanup—that focus on taking care of the environment and promoting the islands as a tourist destination.

"The Tan Siu Lin Foundation stands behind these beautiful and smart women who use their skills and talents for a good cause. Indeed, they are beauties with a purpose. We would like to wish all of them the best of luck in tomorrow's pageant," said TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino. (PR)

LibDay Parade float application deadline is extended to June 25

The 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Committee announced yesterday that the deadline to submit applications for the Liberation Day Parade is extended to Tuesday, June 25, at 4:30pm to the Saipan Mayor's Office.

"We continue to encourage interested government agencies, businesses, community organizations, and individuals to be a part of the 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Parade and Festivities through our always exciting Float Competition," said committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr.

Prizes for the 2019 Liberation Day Float Competition is currently set at \$3,000 for first place, \$2,000 for second place, \$1,000 for third place, and \$500 for fourth place.

"The deadline is extended to accommodate more participants from around our community. The parade is always a great opportunity for us to

come together as a community and remind ourselves why the Marianas is such a special place," said Liberation Day vice chair Shayne Villanueva.

Applications for both the parade and concessions are available at the Saipan Mayor's Office on the ground floor of the CTC Building in Oleai and online at saipanmayor.net.

"It's not too late to join the parade, and we encourage all interested groups to come in and submit an application at our office. We invite everyone to join us from June 27 to July 6 at the Garapan Fishing Base for our Liberation Day festivities as we celebrate resiliency and freedom," said Mayor David M. Apatang.

For more information, visit saipanmayor.net or the 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CNMILiberationDay. (PR)

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- Look left, right, and left again before crossing
- Expect the unexpected

BE AWARE OF PEDESTRIANS ON OUR ROADWAYS

FACTS ABOUT CROSSWALK SIGNALS



The WALKING PERSON that appears on the pedestrian signal lets you know that you can cross the street.

When the UPRAISED HAND begins flashing, you have enough time to finish crossing, but don't leave the curb if you haven't started crossing.



When the UPRAISED HAND is solid, you should already be across the street or still on the curb.

A COUNTDOWN signal lets you know how much time you have left to cross the intersection, but don't leave the curb if you haven't starting crossing.

3...2...1



Even when the signal indicates it's safe to walk, LOOK BOTH WAYS and make sure a driver sees you before stepping off the curb.

CNMI Department of Public Safety.

For more information call:

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T1809842 T1911124
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T1911123 T1911127



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Job growth is the elixir for generational strife in the office

You never know what your cubicle mate is thinking, but recent research identified a source of workplace friction more serious than Jim from accounting's use of the office microwave to heat up leftover fish: Younger workers wonder why older workers are hanging onto their jobs for so long. Time for those older folks to retire already!

A recent poll by The Associated Press and NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 4 in 10 respondents ages 18 to 49 consider the aging workforce to be a bad thing for American workers. Just 14 percent of those age 60 and older said the same. A survey by consulting firm Willis Towers Watson seemed to put its finger on the problem: 37 percent of employers worry that older workers will block the promotion pipeline for younger workers.

The potential for tension is real because members of the massive baby boomer generation continue to occupy workspaces with younger generations who are advancing up the ladder. An aging population, high health care costs and financial setbacks from the Great Recession are likely contributing to a graying workforce, the AP reported. Nearly 20% of Americans over 65 were employed or actively looking for work last year, up from less than 12% two decades prior, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

This is an issue with a sensible solution everyone in the workforce should want: continued robust economic expansion. When existing companies grow and innovation spurs the creation of new firms, employers will need to hire and promote.

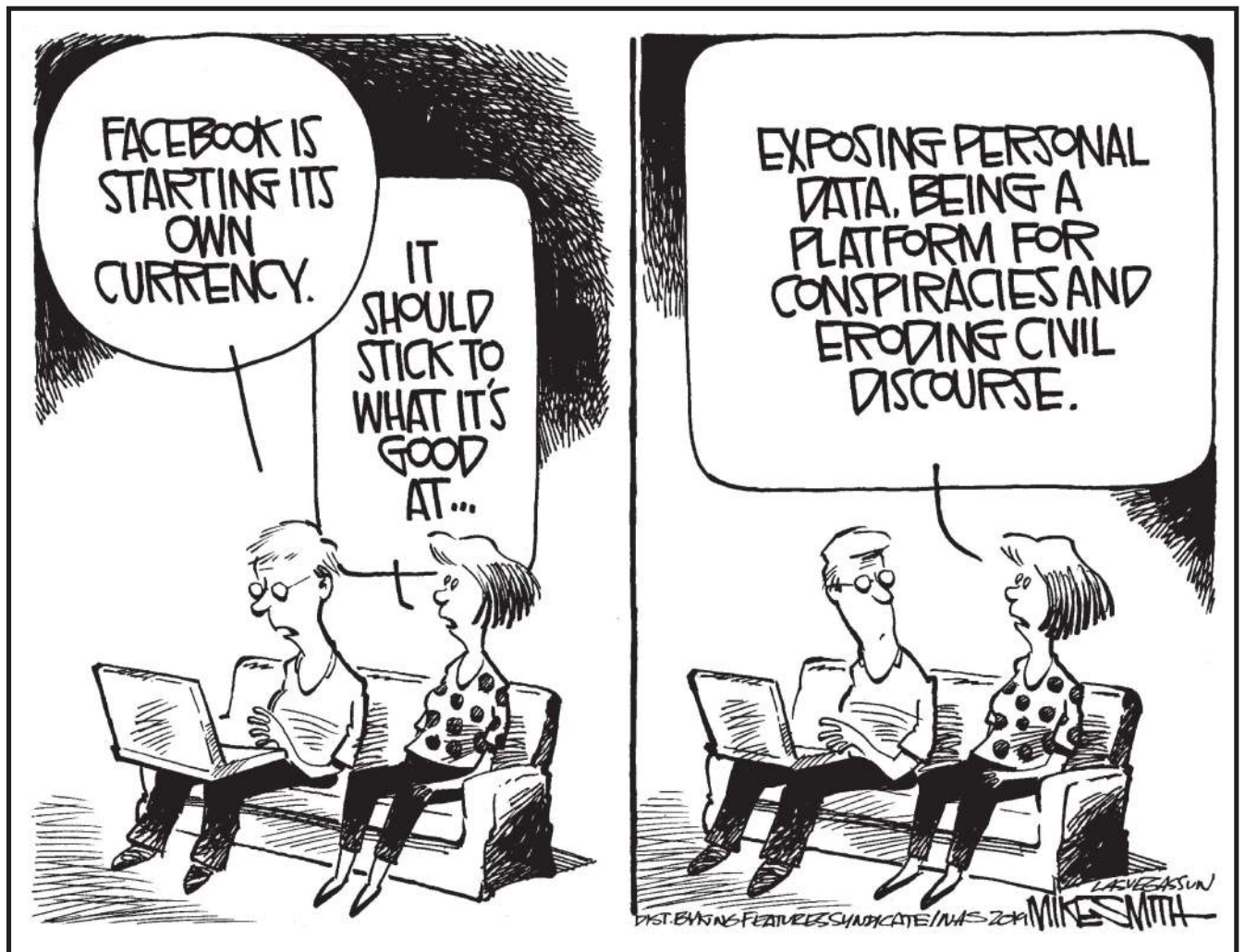
Stoking this healthy cycle allows strivers of all ages room to excel. Meanwhile, older workers can benefit from growth in their 401(k) investment accounts, so those who are ready to retire can feel confident walking away from a paycheck.

To make this point another way, consider the inverse: Unemployment is now at a 50-year low. What would be the impact on hiring and advancement if the economy tanked? Job opportunities for young people would dry up. Older employees would anticipate death stares all around the office.

This would be a shame. Older workers provide wisdom and experience. Millennials bring urgency and a baked-in understanding of the digital world. They're ready to join members of Generation X, 39 to 54 years old, in leadership roles. Competition for promotions is a necessary aspect of business, and we don't want to take sides in any generational tug of war.

We'd rather root for everyone to have as much opportunity as possible. That happens when the American economy is growing at a strong clip.

(c)2019 Chicago Tribune



Train of thought

Amelia please

AThere is a wealth of information, including many eyewitness accounts, that place Amelia Earhart and her airplane in the Marshall Islands in July of 1937, then on a Japanese freighter, then disembarking on Saipan. That narrative ends a few months later with Amelia Earhart dead of dysentery, her copilot/navigator Fred Noonan dead at about the same time at the hands of their Japanese captors, then more months down the line her Lockheed Electra being purposefully burned by U.S. troops at Isley field while under orders from their superiors.

There are two or three other theories about her disappearance, though none with any eyewitness accounts such as the "died-on-Saipan" narrative boasts of. The mainstream media sticks with the conservative "mystery disappearance" theory that suggests she will never be found.

There are many books written about the subject but many are tediously long and contain far more detail and far more conjecture than most people are willing to read through. I recommend you instead read the short booklet (36 pages) of condensed and interesting information written by a local lady many of you know, Marie S.C. Castro with assistance from Mr. Mike Campbell titled *Marie Castro: My Life and Amelia Earhart's Saipan Legacy*. If your curiosity and interest in this fascinating story is piqued by this short introduction you might read the much lengthier *Amelia Earhart: The Truth at Last* by the aforementioned Mike Campbell. It goes into great detail with literally hundreds of pieces of hard data that point at the died-on-Saipan story. There are many other similar books too.

There is a non-profit NGO group here (AEMMI) that wants to have the CNMI take possession of our link to this famed aviatrix and to tie our tourism brand name to her far more widely recognized brand by building a monument to her and her world-famous career as the premier woman pilot of her day. Far more people around the world have heard of AE than have ever heard of Saipan, Tinian or Rota. *Far more*. This is an idea that costs little but that could spread our CNMI fame worldwide and materially help drive thousands of tourists our way. I, for one, am intrigued and see a tremendous potential in such a tie in. More later about this way to quickly supercharge the worldwide brand recognition of our beautiful islands.

Don't yell fire

A recent Fire Department executive spent much of his effort trying to generate cash income for the government via fines, fees and "safety" inspections of business premises. One of his worst actions was stripping western Garapan of roughly half of its already rare

SOUR GRAPES

By **BRUCE BATEMAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.



parking spaces by randomly and without real justification painting them red and unilaterally calling them fire lanes. This literally puts businesses that are on-the-verge out of business.

While I am a big fan of revenue generating efforts by government, this one smacks of legalized blackmail. Paint your curb red but not the store next to yours? Don't gripe or I'll come back and paint the others side of the street red, too, so no one can park at all. Some areas I will hound and patrol frequently to write expensive tickets and even tow your car away. Other areas not so much.

Here is the cure: Since most of those "fire lanes" are totally random anyway, let's get several buckets of concrete gray-colored paint and have the firemen paint all the curbs gray except those very near fire hydrants. Immediately we double the available parking in our highest rent commercial district, enabling customers to get to businesses and buy their goods and services. That will generate more revenue for the government than the aggravating parking tickets and will make customers and business owners alike smile like the proverbial Cheshire cat. On second thought, maybe those revenue producing business friendly curbs should be painted "mint" green.

I'm wondering if I can do that in my village. Just get myself a bucket of red paint and make a mint.

Slush fund

Most of us read with interest Sen. Paul Manglona's letter in the *Saipan Tribune* (CNMI Financial Crisis) to Gov. Torres regarding the state of our economy and the need for cooperation of all stakeholders in getting back on track. I agree with much of his assessment but note that he might want to show up at the Multi-Purpose Center next Wednesday to hear the outreach financial information Gov. Torres will provide for the benefit of all interested parties.

See TRAIN on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Disastrous contraction

Our financial engine has been sputtering since it took a slide into economic contraction in recent past. It's a tough fiscal situation forced by storms and exit of Nippon investments, the latter the heaviest in terms of economic loss.

This has piled into a \$14-billion debt that would take time to clear, if at all. It has forced the administration to hold an outreach program (June 26) to explain the deteriorating financial posture of the NMI. For now, everybody is cutting work hours, including the library.

As financial experts in and out of government attempt to figure our fiscal posture, there's equal intuition we're into a colossal fiscal mess. Must bring out the entire nine yards to figure out where we stand financially.

While we struggle with recovery, grateful that FEMA reimbursements would grant us some room to regain our footing, however protracted it may be. Unfortunately, this doesn't cover loss in the exit of Nippon investments.

The huge loss must have sent Da Boysis pondering, "What is north?" Do they understand the implications and are ready to contribute positively or is it another issue relegated conveniently to the usual disorientation of "not yet, already?"

I've looked critically to see if there's anybody following close behind to serve even as temporary cushion. Yes, there are other investments but not as strong as Japan's, the wealthiest country in the Asia-Pacific.

Reiterating, it is equally troubling Da Boysis' misgivings on significant socio-economic issues that turn into hardship at the village level as a result of official ignorance and negligence. When would this humiliating forte fade into the sunset?

TRAIN

From Page 14

I'm sure his questions will all be answered. It appears to me that the Torres Administration is trying to voluntarily give us the financial information we need without the browbeating.

Meanwhile, he and other senators might want to contribute to the austerity reduction measures by returning some (say 2K/month) of their \$5,000 monthly *unaudited* slush fund money they receive in addition to their annual salaries stipulated by law. As Sen. Paul is a self-proclaimed major proponent of government transparency, he might want to introduce legislation (or at least a regulatory rulemaking) that would disclose to the taxpaying public just how that \$60,000 per year each Rota and Tinian senator receives is spent...in the name of transparency.

Hmmm. Six senators X \$2,000 X 12 months = \$144,000. That a gross of thousands that could offset the austerity salary reductions of a dozen minimum-wage government workers.

Another of Sen. Paul's great ideas is making all the elected and all the department heads share in the joys of austerity shortened paychecks. However, how many of his elected peers in the House of Representatives and Senate will vote for that one?

Thank you

Thank you, Consul Kazuhiko Ono-san for your kind remarks in your letter to the editor of the *Saipan Tribune* last June 14. Thank you also for your exhaustive list of mutual opportunities to understand the culture and physical beauty of each other's country. Finally, thank you for your willingness and enthusiasm to help promote our beautiful islands to the great people of Japan in hopes they will venture here as visitors to relax and refresh their souls in our clean air and fabulous waters. In addition to working with government and private business in that regard please feel free to reach out to me if I may volunteer to be of help to you in achieving that worthy goal. *Domo arigato gozaimasu.*

■■■

Next time we'll look at the sad possibility of treating some businesses one way and other businesses another way at the whims of certain legislators.

Use your fear. ...It can take you to the place where you store your courage.

—Amelia Earhart

The most difficult thing is the decision to act. The rest is merely tenacity. The fears are paper tigers. You can do anything you decide to do. You can act to change and control your life and the procedure. The process is its own reward.

—Amelia Earhart

Is it hard coming to terms with the fact that unless there's resurgence on investments there would be less revenue to sustain current services? It's within the realm of fiduciary duty, isn't it? Hmmm! Da Boysis are snoozing at the wheels while occasionally uttering a line in a familiar folk song, "where seldom is heard..."

Starvation: Reportedly, revenue collection is slow. Well, with nearly 15,000 employees earning "starvation income" in wages and salaries, it's unrealistic and illogical to expect higher tax collection.

This has contributed to the deepening economic contraction that has descended all over the CNMI archipelago. It isn't poised to improve and not when work-hours have recently been reduced to 72 hours. Any further contraction could bring this number down to 64 hours.

Hope the situation improves so we don't engage furlough and reduction-in-force as we move forward. Starvation income is insufficient to even meet basic family needs. Imagine the hardship employees will have to endure if hit with additional work hour reduction.

Such imposition compromises the family's ability to pay obligations like the first family home, car, healthcare, clothing, etc. Shouldn't this be the focus of attention by our men of wisdom on Da Hills of Saipan?

Hardship: The cost of living on Rota is about 40 percent higher than here. Nearly every basic item is flown in by air, given the lack of surface transportation that would have eased the cost of basic goods.

Most employees are earning starvation income of between \$15K and \$18K per year. Less 40 percent and the employee must scramble stretching every penny in hopes of making it to the next paycheck.

The livelihood of the people is in dire straits. The issue has reached

The Sour Soup of Impeachment

"Some things are lawful, but awful. And that could go into the soup of impeachment."

—Rep. Steve Cohen (D-Tennessee),

Judiciary Committee member, June 2019

What if you don't like eating Capitol Hill partisan soup?
What if you don't like the way Republican Senators stew?
or 45's loaded canned speeches in a tweet storm loop
Georgia crackers and a cheating crooked cabinet too?

Speaker Pelosi over and over reiterating 'no way Jose'
not wanting Trump to use impeachment for his benefit
she knows the Republican Senate won't throw him away
and so 45 keeps on saying unlawful things he deems fit.

The majority of the Democratic House says go go go
impeachment could wind up the way it did for Clinton
the House voted to impeach and the Senate said no
a redacted Mueller's report now hits second printing.

The more Americans that read it the better we all can see
how the sour soup of impeachment feeds our democracy.

A Laundry List of Not So Laughable Limericks

Lady Melania Macbeth thankfully completely out of the picture
45's adult children and in-law draw up Middle East scriptures
Jared Kushner in deep denial about MBS Prince of Araby
and Saudi involvement in chopping up journalist Kashoggi
while in DC Saudi hotel guests make the King of Debt richer.

Cabinet member Elaine Chao McConnell the Cheater
is married to the United States Senate Majority leader
she is not usually called Kentucky's Mrs. Mitch McConnell
but is busy learning corrupt practices from her boss the Donald
for hubby's campaign she's already a multi million dollar feeder.

Over thirty Trump staffers and cabinet members by name
have been fired, are in jail, resigned, or quit in shame
Commerce Sec'y Wilbur Ross and Madame Cheater Chao
are coming under more intense corruption scrutiny now
with Bigly Boss 45 at the base of their respective blame.

Gleeful Trumpistas wrote in their columns "he is vindicated"
but that's not what Mueller's four hundred page report indicated
there are some who still claim the report took Trump off the hook

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



state level, thus the need for intervention from Da Hills of Saipan.

As it is, some 20 families have left the island in recent months for Guam, Hawaii and U.S. mainland. It's forced by the lack of job opportunities at home to earn decent living. It's the lack of economic opportunities that has paralyzed life in our southern neighbor.

Family relocation would continue given that it's hard working at home, turned hellish by mind-numbing economic contraction. Apparently, nothing works, premised in the fact that there's simply no plan from Da Hills of Saipan to trigger resurgence of investments. Leaving home is the only option!

It's a critical issue of leadership that seemed to have been ignored and neglected for one reason or another. But we're talking of the livelihood of families left to fend for their lives. Didn't you promise better quality sometime last year? Why would you shirk your fiduciary duty now?

It calls for leadership, a scarcity these days only found in dry ink in the pages of newspapers. The lights are on but is anybody home?

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



turns out they had never even seen or read Special Counsel's book but believed what Attorney General Barr's four page letter stated.

Doing their job the House Oversight Legislative Committee requested papers to find obstruction - well didn't or did he when their subpoenas were refused they threatened contempt so AG Barr finally released some papers to himself redempt counterintelligence grand jury reports will show no pity.

Impeachment inquiry is part of Congressional oversight due to Republican foot dragging it won't happen over night from US Senate President Mitch McConnell right on down partisan politicians protect the malignant narcissistic clown whose dalliance with dictators proves he's not very bright.






On the 2020 Horizon There is Always Hope

A satiric sonnet rap on the devolution of democracy

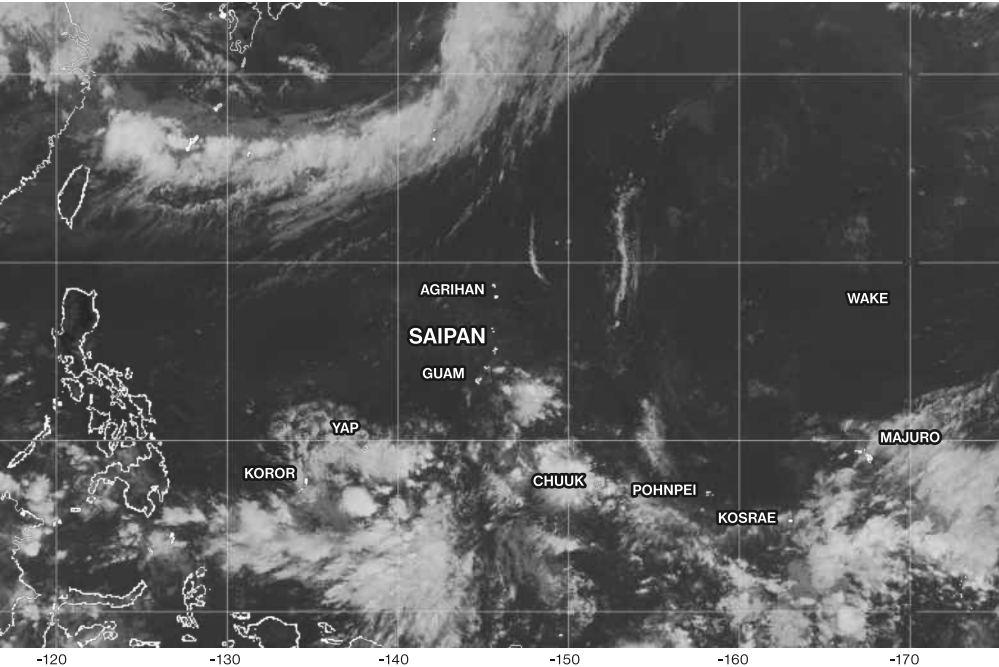
No homes for the homo, Sec'y Ben Carson says 'No Mo'
selective discriminatory social surgery dystopic mergery
Sec'y Ben Carson says of transgender lets bar some
terrible tragic times caused by Trumpian swamp slimes
as the King of Debt counts his pennies, nickels, and dimes
want more Trumpista true and incredible fables for sure
see Ben Carson's purchase of costly tables and furniture
no government help for homeless LGBTQ transgender
this new D. Trump/ B. Carson policy is a real mind bender
show me who Trump goes with I'll tell you what they are
a bunch of creeps, cheats, and crooks who don't read books
sickly sycophants, small minded folks that have strayed afar
Irish protest rhyme "up the long ladder and down the short rope"
2020 is on the horizon and optimists believe there is always hope.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:55 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The trough continues to move westward and is expected to pass through the Marianas tonight and Friday. With some of the deep convection creeping toward the Marianas this morning, have added a slight chance of thunderstorms for this afternoon. Isolated thunderstorms are expected tonight and Friday. Once the trough has moved west, drier conditions will return that will persist into next week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 52°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	95° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 84°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 75°	
London	Mostly Cloudy	68° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	70° / 63°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	93° / 81°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	55° / 39°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	89° / 81°	
New York	Showers	80° / 62°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	84° / 68°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 66°	
Busan	Mostly Sunny	75° / 64°	
Rome	Sunny	93° / 72°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	94° / 74°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	68° / 56°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	84° / 63°	
Tokyo	Showers	79° / 66°	
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	83° / 64°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 2, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 3, 5, 7
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6
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SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	09:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
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HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
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BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
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MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily

1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

24 graduate from Pacific Executive Leadership Development Program

WASHINGTON—Twenty-four individuals from across the Pacific region comprising the Pacific 2019 cohort of the Pacific Executive Leadership Development Program graduated from the program in a ceremony at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, last Friday, June 14, 2019.

“Congratulations graduates, we are proud of your hard work! You have invested in your professional future and we have invested in you,” said Doug Domenech, U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, in a video message played at the ceremony. “We will look to you to help improve the lives of people in the islands.”

Republic of the Marshall Islands president Hilda Heine presided at the graduation where she delivered the keynote remarks.

“Having public servants with the right mix of leadership skills and qualities is essential,” Heine said. “You were all leaders when you joined this program, but there’s no doubt you’re better leaders today following your thoughtful and deliberate efforts during this program.”

Crystal Simanu of American Samoa, chosen by her peers to speak on behalf of her fellow graduates, said, “The ELDP has effectively equipped us to handle any and every situation that comes our way. We now head back to our respective home islands to make changes for the better.”

The graduation ceremony in Honolulu was preceded by a capstone week of training that featured the 2019 cohort giving final presentations of team projects to a panel of judges, which consisted of Office of Insular Affairs director Nikolao Pula, former director of the Micronesian Seminar Rev. Francis X. Hezel, and president of the Guam Community College, Dr. Mary Okada.

“I am impressed by the caliber of young leaders that are representing the U.S. territories and the freely associated states today,” said Pula. “I emphasized to the graduating class the importance of the leadership quality of integrity. As President Eisenhower once

said ‘The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably integrity. Without it, no real success is possible...’”

Additional sessions included the finalization of personal growth plans and individual leadership profiles. They also held final training sessions and discussions on key topics, such as government ethics, performance measurement, and challenges future island leaders will confront.

The 24 graduates of the 2019 Pacific Executive Leadership Program are:

American Samoa

■ Katrina Hunkin-Seumantafa

■ Pilivesburg Pezega Salanoa

■ Crystal Elizabeth Simanu

Guam

■ John P. Camacho, Jr.

■ Rodalyn May A. Gerardo

Northern Mariana Islands

■ Michelle Cabrera Atalig

■ Ryan Camacho

■ Patricia L.L. Coleman

■ TaAnn Kabua-Demapan

■ Roxalyn Kaminanga

Federated States of Micronesia national government

■ Erick Paul

■ Shaun Suliol

Chuuk State, FSM

■ Sherlyn T. Reynold

■ Wisney Nakayama

Pohnpei State, FSM

■ Mitaro I. Simina

Yap State, FSM

■ Vallynna Gippin

Republic of the Marshall Islands

■ Maybelline Bing

■ Laurence E. Edwards, II

■ Holden Nena

■ Isabela Silk

■ Francyne Wase-Jacklick

Republic of Palau

■ Antonnette Odeurengul

Merur

■ Sunny Ochob Ngirmang

■ Cheryl-Ann Udui

Several keynote speakers

addressed the ELDP throughout the week, including Adm. Philip Davidson, commander, Indo-Pacific Command; Mufi Hannemann, president and CEO, Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association; Rev. Francis X. Hezel, SJ, author and historian, Micronesia Studies; Kumu Ramsay Taum, Life Enhancement Institute of the Pacific; and Nainoa Thompson, “Pwo”, navigator



The 2019 graduates of the Pacific Executive Leadership Development Program pose for a souvenir photo at their graduation in Honolulu, Hawaii, last June 14, 2019.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

of the Hōkūle‘a.

Administered by the Graduate School USA’s Pacific Islands Training Initiative, the ELDP is funded through the Office of Insular Affairs’ Technical Assistance Program, which is funded annually by Congress.

The ELDP was created in 2009 to help island governments in the U.S. territories and the Freely Associated States address challenges with attracting and retaining qualified individuals to work in core leadership functions.

The full video of congratulatory remarks can be viewed at: <https://vimeo.com/342584953>. (PR)



Marshall Islands president Hilda Heine speaks to the 2019 graduating class of the Pacific Executive Leadership Development Program in Honolulu on Friday, June 14, 2019.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Town House

A Subsidiary of Jones & Guerrero Company, Inc.





Sale period
June 21 - 23, 2019



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wall décor, rugs,
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GE 20.8cu.ft Top
Freezer Refrigerator
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SALE \$1,185



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Store Hours: Tuesday - Friday 12:00noon - 7:00pm | Saturday & Sunday 11:00am - 7:00pm



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL)
 Tel.: (670) 234-3751 • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp • Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot 117 D 08 and Lot 117 D 14 containing an area of approximately 15,426 square meters, more or less, situated in Puerto Rico, Saipan. Copies of the location of the parcels are available at the Department of Public Lands and website www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.
- The prospective lessee is Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. The list of officers for Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. are Mr. Norman T. Tenorio, as President, Mr. Peter Michael P. Tenorio, as Vice-President, Mr. Clarence T. Tenorio, as Secretary/Treasurer and Mr. Michael T. Demapan, as General Manager and Mr. Lee Christopher Cabrera, as Assistant General Manager.
- The proposed lease is compliant with DPL regulations and was negotiated by the officers and directors of Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc., mainly Mr. Michael T. Demapan and Mr. Lee Christopher Cabrera.
- The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of chasis, equipments and container storage.
The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years.
The proposed annual rental during the term of each lease agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property plus the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.
- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp
- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Puerto Rico, Saipan.
- The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before June 21, 2019 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIAN I MAPROPONI NA ATKILON TĀNU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lain Pupbluku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku mannānā'i guini nutisia put i intensiona para u atkila finitmi na tanu' pupbluku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas. Maseha hayi na pattida ni intirisao gi halum henerat pupbluku siña muna' halum upiñon, infotmasion, pat testimoniuñ kinontra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atkilon nu i tanu' pupbluku. Kumu mapribeni mas' mo' na ginin i Lain Pupbluku 15-2, i tinatititi pettanešin na infotmasion manisista para u mapupblika.

- I maproponi na atkilon tanu' pupbluku madiskribi kumu Lot 117 D 08 yan Lot 117 D 14 ni konsisisti kasi 15,426 square meters, mas' pat menus, ni gaigi gi Puerto Rico, giya Saipan. I kopian patin i lugat managuaha gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku yan website gi www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion
- I prospective lessee i Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. Ilistan nu i ufisiat siha para i Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. si Sinot Norman T. Tenorio, kumu Presidenti, Sinot Peter Michael P. Tenorio, kumu Sigundu na Presidenti, Sinot Clarence T. Tenorio, kumu Sekretariu/Tresurariu yan Sinot Michael T. Demapan, kumu General Manager yan si Sinot Lee Christopher Cabrera, kumu Assistant General Manager.
- I maproponi na atkilon na tattiyi i regulasion DPL siha yan manegosiu ginin i ufisiat yan direktot nu i Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc., mayutmentu ginin as Sinot Michael T. Demapan yan si Sinot Lee Christopher Cabrera.
- I lessee debi na u usa i lugat put atyu ha' na rason nu i chasis, aparatos siha yan sagan pine'lun kosas.
I tema nu i mapropoina kontratan atkilon sa benti singku (25) ānus na tiempu.
I maproponi na atkilon gi kada' sakkān gi durantin i teman i kontratan atkilon mapega gi pusementu nu i balin appraised fair market i propiedat yan i propiu na pusementu i Risibun Hina' halum Bisnis gi halum regulasion i DPL.
- I kopian nu i mapropoina na Kontratan Atkilon siña machuli' gi ufisinan i Sekretarian, Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku, gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) na bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building iya Dandan, Saipan, primet (1st) na bibiendan De'Ana Commercial Building, iya Songsong Village, Luta; pat i primet (1st) na bibiendan i Kings Commercial Building, giya Tinian. I kopia debi lokui' na managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp
- I Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku taya marisibi ni hafa na tinahguin inofresi siha ni para u ma' atkila i suhetu na tanu' pupbluku gi Puerto Rico, Saipan.
- I Sekretarian Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku ha aksepta tinigi' upiñon, infotmasion, testimoniuñ kinontra pat tinahguin prinoponi siha ginin i manintirisao na pattida siha gi pat antis gi Hunio 21, 2019 gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, Luta pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL POMMWOL ATKILÓÓNL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sangi Tálil 106 (b) reel Allégghul Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap e atototowow arongorong reel igha re mangemangil rebwe atkilaay akkaaw faluweer toulap ilol Seipel, Commonwealth Teel Falu kka Efang ilol Marianas. Schóokka re mwuschel isiisilong kkapas, data, views, ngareangiñgi reel pommwol atkiloónol faluweer toulap. Eyoor sangi Allégghul Toulap 15-2, arongorongol ikka e amwirimwiritiw ebwe akkatewow.

- Faluweer toulap iye rebwe atkilaay e bwaálóbwe Lot 117 D 08 me Lot 117 D 14 ebwebwaa-bwe 15,426 reel square meters, elapelo ngare eghus, iye e lo Puerto Rico, Seipel. Eyoor pappidil faluw yeel me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me website www.dpl.gov.mp ngare u mwuschel amwuri.
- Schóol Atkiloón nge Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. Officers nge Mr. Norman T. Tenorio, igha ii President, Mr. Peter Michael P. Tenorio, igha ii Vice President, Mr. Clarence T. Tenorio, igha ii Sekkretóriyo/Treasurer me Mr. Michael T. Demapan, igha ii General Manager me Mr. Lee Christopher Cabrera, igha ii Assistant General Manager.
- Pommwol Atkiloón nge e compliant ngali mwoghutughutul DPL e ppwol sangi officers me directors sangi Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc., spesiatmente Mr. Michael T. Demapan me Mr. Lee Christopher Cabrera.
- Schóol Atkiloón ebwe yaáyá faluw bwulul chasis, peiráagh me leliyal isiisil pisegh.
Pommwol abwungubwungul Atkiloón nge ruweigh me limoow ráagh.
Pommwol atkiloónol ghal ráagh nge e lo reel percentage sangi appraised fair market value reel faluw ebwal schuulog applicable percentage reel Business Gross Receipts ilol mwoghutughutul DPL.
- Pappidil pommwol abwungubwungul Atkiloón emmwel ubwe bweibwogh mereel Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Seipel; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, aplomwol Songsong, me Luuta; ngare 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyol. Ebwal yoor pappidil mille online me www.dpl.gov.mp
- Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap resé bweibwogh pommw iye re siiweli ngali Atkiloón iye e lo weilang reel faluweer toulap me Puerto Rico, Seipel.
- Sekkretóriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap emmwelil bweibwogh ischil mangemang, views, angii ngare pommw iye re siiweli sangi schóokka re mwuschel wool ngaremmwalil Unnyo 21, 2019 me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me Seipel, Luuta, ngare Tchiliyol.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
 P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PERIMETER SECURITY FENCE REPLACEMENT - REPACKAGING, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO.: 3-69-0003-27/XX.**

One original and three copies shall be submitted in a sealed envelope or container and delivered to the office of the CPA Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, on or before **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Rota International Airport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement, all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the departure terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY U.S. DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (DVD). This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **TWO SEVENTY FORTY (270) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS PER CALENDAR DAYS (\$300.00)** shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager's Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport at **10:00 a.m., Friday, June 28, 2019** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by CPA. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the DVD.

It is the Contractors' responsibility to verify and ensure that the drawings are printed without distortion after printing which may affect sheet size and scale of the design details. Prints shall be the actual intended size of 24" by 36" as initially prepared by the Designer of Record.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP-70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Government wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
 CPA Executive Director

Date: June 11, 2019



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
 P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PERIMETER FENCE REPLACEMENT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-TA-001-19.**

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and submitted to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Tinian International Airport Perimeter Fence Replacement all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **TWO HUNDRED FORTY (240) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS PER CALENDAR DAYS (\$200.00)** shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Tinian Ports Manager's Office, Tinian International Airport at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 27, 2019 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the DVD.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Government wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
 CPA Executive Director

Date: June 12, 2019



2019 JOETEN MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC



Bank of Guam

Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort - East Course

Saturday, June 22, 2019

Show Time: 6:00 A.M. • Shotgun Start: 7:00 A.M. • Banquet Guest Fee: \$32.00/person

EARLY REGISTRATION: \$100.00 (By June 1st, 2019)

REGISTRATION FEE: \$120.00/PERSON

(Inclusive of Green Fee, Diddy Bag, Awards Banquet)

All par 3's have hole-in-one and closest-to-the-pin prizes.

MEN'S Championship Flight

1st Place	\$ 400.00
2nd Place	\$ 300.00
3rd Place	\$ 200.00

MEN'S A Flight

1st Place	\$ 400.00
2nd Place	\$ 300.00
3rd Place	\$ 200.00

MEN'S B Flight

1st Place	\$ 400.00
2nd Place	\$ 300.00
3rd Place	\$ 200.00

MEN'S C Flight

1st Place	\$ 400.00
2nd Place	\$ 300.00
3rd Place	\$ 200.00

Women's Low Gross

1st Place	\$ 400.00
2nd Place	\$ 300.00
3rd Place	\$ 200.00

Senior's Low Gross

1st Place	\$ 400.00
2nd Place	\$ 300.00
3rd Place	\$ 200.00

**Optional Play
\$25.00**

**Closest to the Pin
Hole #4, 5, 6, 11, 15**

**Drive the Green
Hole #8**

**KP 2nd Shot
Hole #7**

**KP 2nd Shot
Hole #13**

**Accurate Drive
Hole #14**

**Longest Drive
Hole #18**

Hole#4



2019 Kia Soul

Matson

Hole#5



2019 Honda Ridgeline



**Over
\$100,000
in possible
prizes.**

Hole#6



2019 Yamaha TW200

Hole#11



2019 Nissan Titan

Hole#16



pacifica
Insurance
Underwriters, Inc.

Rest Assured.

\$10K Cash

Prize vehicles may not be exactly as shown. Actual Prizes may change without prior notice.



Awards banquet at Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort Restaurant immediately following the tournament.

GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES, SIDE GAMES, SKILL SHOTS AND MORE!

For more information on the tournament contact Norman Peter Tenorio at 234-5563.

Business

United Polaris lounge named Best Business Class Lounge

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.— The United Polaris lounge at San Francisco International Airport has been voted Best Business Class Lounge in the World by the 2019 World Airline Awards from Skytrax. This highly-coveted award was voted on by more than 21 million airline customers representing over 100 nationalities.

“Our customers are telling us that the Polaris lounges are a gamechanger in provid-

ing modern, tranquil spaces to relax, recharge and enjoy top-notch food and drinks. The entire Polaris experience begins in the lounge, which is why we’ve placed so much emphasis on getting it right,” said Mark Krolick, United’s vice president of marketing. “Being honored with this award is a testament to our revolutionary efforts to continue to exceed our customers’ high expectations.”

With a focus on providing a more tranquil journey from departure-to-landing, United has opened an exclusive portfolio of United Polaris lounges at Chicago O’Hare International Airport, Houston’s George Bush Intercontinental Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport, San Francisco International Airport and most recently, Los Angeles International Airport.

“Polaris lounges have impressed customers from the first unveiling in 2016 and have grown in popularity amongst international air travelers year-on-year,” said Edward Plaisted, chief execu-

tive officer of Skytrax. “This global recognition is a top seal of approval for the staff and management involved in delivering the Polaris lounge concept, and they should be rightly proud of a truly world-class facility.”


The only lounge of its kind offered by a U.S. airline to international business class customers, United Polaris lounges feature a custom scent, curated music playlist and subtle mood lighting which come together to create a notable sensory experience. Each location offers a variety of seating areas to meet the needs of customers, whether they want

to charge their mobile devices, take advantage of complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi, enjoy a gourmet meal or simply rest before their flight. United Polaris lounge signature seats are designed with an oversized chair, integrated work or dining table, large privacy dividers and a personal side lamp. Tucked away from the rest of the lounge, daybeds outfitted with a Saks Fifth Avenue blanket and pillow offer a quiet place to rest.

United Polaris business class represents the airline’s most significant product transformation in more than a decade and the airline con-

tinues to increase momentum of its roll-out. Nearly 50% of United’s wide-body fleet are now outfitted with the new Polaris business class seat and the United Polaris lounge at Dulles International Airport is expected to open next year.

Star Alliance, of which United is a founding member, was also victorious in this year’s Awards, claiming the Best Airline Alliance title for the fourth consecutive year. Star Alliance was the first airline alliance to receive the Best Alliance Award when the category was introduced in 2005 and has since won the award ten times. *(PR)*



NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE

BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 24, 2019 3:30pm

BOR Conference Room, Saipan Campus

AGENDA

I. Call Meeting to Order

1. Roll Call

2. Review and Adoption of Agenda

3. Review and Adoption of Minutes

A. February 28, 2019 (Regular Meeting)

B. March 15, 2019 (Special Meeting)

C. April 23, 2019 (Special Meeting)

II. Public Comment Period

Individuals may verbally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Comments should be limited to five (5) minutes. Written testimony is also accepted.

III. Reports and Action from Standing Committees

1. Finance Committee

2. Audit Committee

a. FY 2018 Annual Audit

3. Human Resources Committee

a. NMC Faculty Minimum Qualification Requirement Policy – *Proposed Amendment*

4. Regent Nominating Committee

5. Program Committee

IV. Old Business

1. Presidential Search Committee

V. New Business

1. CREES Agriculture Experiment Station

VI. NMC Executive Reports

1. Interim President's Report

a. FY2020 Budget Request Update

b. NMC Tuition and Fee Structure

c. Recovery Update

d. Legislative Update

e. CFO Financial Report

f. Accreditation Update

g. Academic Program Feature: Distance Education

VII. Board Meeting Assessment

VIII. Miscellaneous Items

IX. Executive Session

(At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)

X. Adjournment

/s/ Charles V. Cepeda

BOR Chairperson

Amid urgent climate warnings, EPA gives coal a reprieve

WASHINGTON (AP)— Amid scientists’ increasingly urgent warnings, the Trump administration ordered a sweeping about-face Wednesday on Obama-era efforts to fight climate change, easing restrictions on coal-fired power plants in a move it predicted would revitalize America’s sagging coal industry.

As miners in hard hats and coal-country lawmakers applauded, Environmental Protection Agency chief Andrew Wheeler signed a measure that scraps one of President Barack Obama’s key initiatives to rein in fossil fuel emissions. The replacement rule gives states more leeway in deciding whether to require plants to make limited efficiency upgrades.

Wheeler said he expects more coal plants to open as a result. But one state, New York, immediately said it would go to court to challenge the action, and more lawsuits are likely.

The EPA move follows pledges by candidate and then President Donald Trump to rescue the U.S. coal industry, which saw near-record numbers of plant closings last year in the face of competition from cheaper natural gas and renewables. It’s the latest and one of the biggest of dozens of environmental regulatory roll-backs by his administration.

It came despite scientists’ cautions that the world must cut fossil fuel emissions to stave off the worst of global warming and the EPA’s own analysis that the new rule

would result in the deaths of an extra 300 to 1,500 people each year by 2030 compared to the never fully enacted Clean Power Plan, owing to additional air pollution from the power grid.

“Americans want reliable energy that they can afford,” Wheeler declared at the signing ceremony, with White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney alongside to underscore Trump’s approval.

There’s no denying “fossil fuels will continue to be an important part of the mix,” Wheeler said.


Lawmakers and industry representatives from coal states blamed federal regulation, not the market, for the decadeslong trend of declining U.S. coal use and said Wednesday’s act would stave

off more coal plant closings.

“We’re not ready for renewable energy ... so we need coal,” declared Rep. David McKinley, a West Virginia Republican.

But rather than a sensible economic move, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi described the change as a “dirty power scam” and “a stunning giveaway to big polluters.” She called climate change “the existential threat of our time” and said the administration was ignoring scientific studies and yielding to special interests.

Obama’s 2015 Clean Power Plan is currently stayed by the Supreme Court while challenges play out from more than two dozen states that contend it exceeded authority under the federal Clean Air Act.



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Special Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, June 25, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Adoption of Minutes

a. Regular Board Meeting – June 12, 2019

b. Special Board Meeting – June 17, 2019

2) Public Comments

3) Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee —

a. Fund Status

4) New Business

5) Old Business

1. MVA Korea Representative Office RFP – MVA-RFP-19-2015


6) Executive Session

7) Miscellaneous/Announcements

8) Adjournment


/s/ Gloria Cavanagh

Acting Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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SEAPORT COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that the Board Seaport Facilities Committee will be holding a special meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located at the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on Saipan.

AGENDA

A. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Roll Call

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Adoption of Minutes - June 05, 2019

B. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. Delta Dock

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Angyuta Island, Rota

2. Marianas Waterworks Shipping Company

3. Department of Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR)- Rota West Harbor Small Boat Marina

4. Seaport Regulations for Small Boat Operations

5. Seaport Police Boat

6. Asia-Pacific Ship Investment, Inc.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if needed)

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

G. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit will be imposed for oral testimony.

Pete P. Reyes, Committee Chair

Nation

Florida city pays \$600K ransom to save computer records

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—A Florida city agreed to pay \$600,000 in ransom to hackers who took over its computer system, the latest in thousands of attacks worldwide aimed at extorting money from governments and businesses.

The Riviera Beach City Council voted unanimously this week to pay the hackers' demands, believing the Palm Beach suburb had no choice if it wanted to retrieve its records, which the hackers encrypted. The council already voted to spend almost \$1 million on new computers and hardware after hackers captured the city's system three weeks ago.

The hackers apparently got into the city's system when an employee clicked on an email link that allowed them to upload malware. Along with the encrypted records, the city had numerous problems including a disabled email system, employees and vendors being paid by check rather than direct deposit and 911 dispatchers being unable to enter calls into the computer. The city says there was no delay in response time.

Spokeswoman Rose Anne Brown said Wednesday that the city of 35,000 residents has been working with outside security consultants, who recommended the ransom be paid. She conceded there are no guarantees that once the hackers received the money they will release the records. The payment is being covered by insurance. The FBI on its website says it "doesn't support" paying off hackers, but Riviera Beach isn't alone: many government agencies and businesses do.

"We are relying on their (the consultants') advice," she said. The hackers demanded payment in the cryptocurrency bitcoin. While it is possible to trace bitcoins as they are spent, the owners of the accounts aren't necessarily known, making it a favored payment method in ransomware attacks.

Numerous governments and businesses have been hit in the United States and worldwide in recent years. Baltimore refused to pay hackers \$76,000 after an attack last month. The U.S. government indicted two Iranians last year for allegedly unleashing more than 200 ransomware attacks, including against the cities of Atlanta and Newark, New Jersey. The men, who have not been arrested, received more than \$6 million in payments and caused \$30 million in damage to computer systems, federal prosecutors have said.

The federal government last year also accused a North Korean programmer of committing the "WannaCry" attack that infected government, bank, factory and hospital computers in 150 countries. He is also believed to have stolen \$81 million from a Bangladesh bank. He also remains in his home country.

ACROSS THE NATION

Officer fired after video appears to show him choking teen

LARGO, Fla. (AP)—Officials say a white Florida police officer who appears to be choking a black teenager on video has been fired.

The Tampa Bay Times reports that Largo police announced the termination Tuesday of 43-year-old Brian Livernois. An internal investigation found he had violated department policy. Police say Livernois stopped a group of people by the side of a road in April because a 17-year-old boy matched the description of a person who had threatened to shoot someone. A video posted to Facebook and YouTube shows a heated exchange between the officer and teen before Livernois drags the teen to the front of his patrol car. The officer appears to grab the teen around the neck. Livernois arrested the teen and a man who tried to intervene. The police union declined to comment on the firing.

Police say Myers started driving away when officers asked him to get out of the car. He's accused of dragging one officer a short distance and nearly running over another. Neither was hurt. Authorities say Myers then led officers on a chase across the state border. Police say he crashed, suffered minor injuries and was arrested in Mississippi. Myers is in a Mississippi jail and is expected to be extradited to Louisiana. It's unclear whether he had an attorney who could comment.

Ex-deputy: Supervisor used racial slur, pointed gun at him

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—A supervisor in a North Carolina sheriff's office addressed a biracial deputy with a racial slur multiple times, called him "monkey boy," mocked him for his hair and pointed a gun at his head at least eight times, according to a lawsuit filed in federal court.

Attorneys for former Beaufort County sheriff's deputy Dominic Franks filed his discrimination lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Greenville, North Carolina, on Tuesday against the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Ernie Coleman, supervisor William Ragland and two others. Another defendant was identified in the lawsuit as "John Doe."

"This kind of lawsuit definitely sheds a light to some of the things going on within law enforcement," attorney Charles Clemons said on Wednesday, "and puts us in a position that we have to address it or there would never be any trust of law enforcement."

Coleman said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press that Franks' allegations "are not true and we are confident that this will be proven in court." The sheriff said the department will file an answer with the court and it will speak for itself.

In his lawsuit, Franks said he was subjected to "hostile, abusive, racist and unsafe work conditions."

According to the lawsuit, Franks, who served in the U.S. Army for four years, began working for the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office in July 2015. Beaufort County is on the North Carolina coast,

about 120 miles (193 kilometers) east of Raleigh.

In November 2016, Franks said he was in a "deputy room" when Ragland pointed his loaded service weapon at his head for approximately 15 seconds and said "What's up (N-word)?"

Every time Ragland pointed his weapon at Franks, the lawsuit said, Ragland used the racial slur. Also, Ragland often referred to Franks as "monkey boy" and described his hair as "rhino lining" because of its color and texture.

Franks made several complaints through the department's chain of command in accordance with policy, the lawsuit said. Despite the repeated complaints, Franks said Ragland continued his abusive behavior.

Police: Theft suspect tried to evade chase by leaving state

SLIDELL, La. (AP)—Authorities say a man accused of stealing in Louisiana led police on a chase into Mississippi under the mistaken impression that officers couldn't follow him there. In a news release, Slidell police say officers were investigating a shoplifting call Tuesday when they approached 51-year-old Robert Myers, who was sitting in his vehicle.

Chicago panel clears 2 white officers in black man's death

CHICAGO (AP)—A review board has cleared two white Chicago police officers in the fatal shooting of a black man that led to demonstrations. Chicago's Civilian Office of Police Accountability said in a statement Tuesday that officers Joseph Treacy and Sgt. Thomas Derouin acted "within policy" in the 2016 death of 25-year-old Joshua Beal of Indianapolis. The shooting followed an argument between an off-duty firefighter and black motorists in a largely white neighborhood in southwest Chicago. The board says in its report that video shows Treacy announcing himself as a police officer and Beal holding a raised weapon prior to being shot. Police have said Treacy and Derouin, who were both off duty, opened fire when Beal grabbed a gun from a car and pointed it at the officers.



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL TERMINALS EXPANSION
Project No. CPA-SA-005-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the Expansion of the Departure and Arrival Terminals at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at (670) 237-6500 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than **5:00 p.m. (CHST) Friday, June 28, 2019**.

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00p.m., FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.


Send information to:

Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ for CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO

Executive Director

Date: June 4, 2019



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
SAIPAN AIRPORT COMMUTER TERMINAL
Project No. CPA-SA-007-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the demolition of the existing and construction of a new Commuter Terminal Building at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at (670) 237-6500 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than **Friday, June 21, 2019, 5:00 p.m. (CHST)**.

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00p.m., MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.


Send information to:

Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ for CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO

Executive Director

Date: June 4, 2019



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AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement and Installation of a Rotating Beacon
Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
Project No. CPA-SA-006-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to remove and dispose of existing rotating beacon and procure and install a brand-new rotating beacon, climbing device, basket, etc. at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, installation and testing of the new beacon with a 1-year warranty and an additional 1-year preventive maintenance services.

The RFP package including the scope of work (SOW) and appendices are available for pick up at no charge at the CPA Administration Office. Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package. Proposal submission requirements and contract details are outlined in the SOW.

A site inspection will be conducted on **Monday, June 17, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** in order to assess the condition and area and determine equipment and materials needed for the installation. Prospective proposers can meet the Saipan Airport Manager, Mr. William Camacho, at the beacon site at 9:55 a.m.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **5:00 p.m., MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019**.

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals must be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to the Saipan Airport Manager, Mr. William Camacho, at bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO

CPA Executive Director

Date: June 12, 2019



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
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NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of June 21, 2019

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Open Knowledge Systems, Inc.	05/21/2019 SLR-2018-X-134-R2	Snorkeling	Susupe, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
2. Auto Marine, Inc.	05/22/2019 SLR-2018-X-113-R2	Banana Boat, Parasailing, & Seawalker	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
3. Mark Arnold dba Mac's Marine	05/22/2019 SLR-2018-X-112-R2	Banana Boat, Parasailing Lagoon Tour & Seawalker	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
4. J&K Marine Sports, Inc. dba J&K Marine Sports	05/22/2019 SLR-2018-X-069-R2	Wakeboard, Snorkeling, & Banana Boat	Kanoa Resort & Saipan World Resort Lagoon Area	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
5. J&K Marine Sports, Inc. dba J&K Marine Sports	05/22/2019 SLR-2018-X-102-R2	Personal Watercraft & Accessory Use	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
6. Sakura CNMI Corporation dba Sakura Marine Sports	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-083-R2	Banana Boat, Snorkeling, & Kayaking	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
7. Sakura CNMI Corporation dba Sakura Marine Sports	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-084-R2	Personal Watercraft &	Saipan Lagoon Wakeboard	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
8. Zheng Chen Corporation dba Wasai Diving	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-133-R2	SCUBA Instruction	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
9. Luana Inc., dba Heart of of Gold Divers	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-163-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour & Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
10. Diving Shop Light House, Inc.	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-169-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
11. Ben & Ki Water Sports, LLC	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-140-R2	Banana Boat & Wakeboard	Saipan Lagoon and Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
12. Ben & Ki Water Sports, LLC	05/28/2019 SLR-2018-X-139-R2	Personal Watercraft & Snorkeling	Fiesta Resort/Hyatt Regency Beach Area	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
13. Thank You Saipan Corportion dba Thank You Saipan Diving	05/29/2019 SLR-2018-X-072-R2	SCUBA Dive Tour Operation/Instruction, Seawalker, Helmet Diving & Snorkeling	All Dive Sites on Saipan & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
14. Black Bison Travel Corp 1st Diving Club	05/29/2019 SLR-2018-X-117-R2	SCUBA Dive Instruction, Kayak & Snorkeling	Grotto & Laulau Bay	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
15. JB Corporation Saipan Fresh Adventure Snorkeling Tours	05/29/2019 SLR-2018-X-153-R2	Snorkeling	Grotto & Wing Beach	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
16. BSEA Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports	05/29/2019 SLR-2018-X-076-R2	Banana Boat & Snorkeling	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan, & Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
17. BSEA Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports	05/29/2019 SLR-2018-X-077-R2	Parasailing	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
18. Nury Corporation dba Diwewish	05/29/2019 SLR-2018-X-147-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/11/2019
19. Harry Blalock dba Axe Murderer Tours LLC	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-078-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
20. Zen Corporation dba Aqua Marine Sports	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-065-R2	Kayak, Standup Paddle Boat, Snorkel, Windsurfing, & Hobie Cat	Achugao-San Roque Beach Area & Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
21. Ocean Sports Corp dba Aqua Dive	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-116-R2	SCUBA Dive Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
22. Marco Energy Inc.	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-123-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
23. H2M Saipan Corporation dba HSM Saipan Dive Center	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-104-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
24. Kwon & Byun Corporation dba Saipan Atty Dive	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-122-R2	SCUBA Diving Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review 06/18/2018
25. Aquaville, Inc.	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-145-R2	Trial Diving & Hydrobob	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
26. Aquaville, Inc.	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-146-R2	Banana Boat & Seawalker	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
27. Pacific Islands Club	05/30/2019 SLR-2018-X-106-R2	Kayak, Windsurfing, Sailboats Standup Paddle, & Snorkel	PIC Beach Area San Antonio, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/18/2019
28. Palette Travel LLC	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-017-R2	Snorkeling & Free Diving	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
29. Saipan Diving World, Inc.	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-087-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
30. Saipan International Dive Center Inc.	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-086-R2	SCUBA Diving Operation	Paupau, Obyan, Laulau each & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
31. Deep Blue Sea Corporation	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-089-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
32. Seahorse Inc. Saipan	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-090-R2	Parasailing, Banana Boat & Personal Watercraft	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
33. Taotao Marianas, Inc.	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-092-R2	Personal Watercraft	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
34. Taotao Marianas, Inc.	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-091-R2	Banana Boat	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
35. Taotao Marianas, Inc.	05/31/2019 SLR-2018-X-093-R2	Parasailing	Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 06/19/2019
36. Saipan Golden Bridge Service Corporation	06/06/2019 SLR-2019-X-037	SCUBA Diving, Sailboat & Snorkeling	Grotto, Laulau Bay, Hafa Adai, & Center of IPI, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
37. Saipan Coral Reef, Inc. dba Coral Reef	06/06/2019 SLR-2018-X-131-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour/Instruction	Tank Beach, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
38. Korea Tourism Inc. dba, Koreana Tours Bureau	06/10/2019 SLR-2018-X-138-R2	Snorkeling	Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
39. Hana Tour Service Inc. Db, Saipan Hana Tour	06/10/2019 SLR-2018-X-137-R2	Snorkeling	Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
40. Saipan World Resort	06/11/2019 SMS-2004-X-121; Amendment 2019-1	Renovation of Gymnasium Area	Susupe, Saipan	Major Siting-Existing	Approved 06/19/2019
41. Phillip's Corporation Db, Snorkeling Tour	06/11/2019 SLR-2018-X-096-R2	Snorkeling	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
42. Ocean Plus Saipan Inc. dba, Ocean Plus Dive In Saipan	06/13/2019 SLR-2018-X-136-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour/ Instruction	Grotto, & Laulau Bay, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
43. Selfish Saipan Inc.	06/14/2019 SLR-2019-X-038	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	Laulau Bay, Grotto, & Obyan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
44. Crystal Star Corporation	06/14/2019 SLR-2018-X-107-R2	Standup Paddle Board, Kayak, & Snorkeling	Oleai Beach, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
45. H.S. Lee Construction, Inc; Serenti Hotel	06/18/2019 SMS-2015-X-005 Amendment 2019-1	Renovation of 4th Floor	Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting-Existing	Under Review
46. M/V Sea Hunter	06/19/2019 SPI-2019-X-039	Drydock	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*
47. Le Grand Bleu, Inc.	06/19/2019 SLR-2018-X-174-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour/Instruction	All Designated Dives Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

HK students issue government deadline over demands

HONG KONG (AP)—A Hong Kong student group demanded Wednesday that the city completely scrap a politically charged extradition bill and agree to investigate police tactics against protesters before a Thursday deadline or face further street demonstrations. Meanwhile, the Civil Human Rights Front, which organized massive marches on the past two Sundays, called for another protest on July 1, the anniversary of Hong Kong’s handover from British to Chinese rule in 1997. Since last Sunday’s march on the government headquarters by an estimated 2 million people, the number of protesters in the area has dropped to just a few dozen. But Wednesday’s developments are the latest indication that the largest and angriest protests in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory in years aren’t over yet. Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam has apologized for her handling of the extradition bill, which could be used to send suspects to mainland China for trial. She agreed to suspend debate, but has stopped short of scrapping the legislation, which critics say threatens the territory’s judicial independence. “We are not asking (Lam) to come out and apologize. We are asking for real action,” Joey Siu from the City University Students Union said at a Wednesday news conference. The group is part of the Hong Kong Federation of Students, which represents student unions at several universities. It has demanded that the government scrap the extradition legislation, investigate police tactics at a protest last Wednesday, cease calling the incident a riot, and release those arrested and drop charges against them.

S. Korea to send 50K tons of rice to N. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea said Wednesday it plans to send 50,000 tons of rice to North Korea through the World Food Program, in its second aid package announced in past weeks as it seeks to help with North Korean food shortages and improve bilateral relations. South Korean Unification Minister Kim Yeon-chul, Seoul’s point man for North Korea, said his government will work with the U.N. agency to en-

sure that the food reaches North Korean people without delay. South Korea last week sent \$8 million to the World Food Program and the United Nations Children’s Fund for programs providing medical and nutritional aid for North Korean children and pregnant women. U.N. agencies last month said that about 10 million people were facing “severe food shortages” after one of North Korea’s worst harvests in a decade. Kim said South Korea will decide whether to provide more food aid after reviewing the outcome of the current assistance. Kim said South Korea and WFP are reviewing how to send the South Korean-produced rice to North Korea, but that a delivery by sea would be more effective than air transport. “Considering previous cases, it would take about two months to send 50,000 tons of rice (to North Korea),” Kim said in a news conference. “The government will do its best so that (the rice arrives in the North) possibly within September.”

Parts of southern India facing acute water shortages

NEW DELHI (AP)—Millions of people are turning to water tank trucks in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu as house and hotel taps run dry because of an acute water shortage caused by drying lakes and depleted groundwater. State Rural Development Minister S.P. Velumani said on Wednesday that the drought followed a 62% shortfall in monsoon rains last year compared to 2017. People are lining up for water cans in the state capital of Chennai. Some companies have asked employees to work from home. Some restaurants are closing early and even considering not serving lunch if the water scarcity worsens. Gauri Shankar, general manager of Hotel Deccan Plaza in Chennai, said two tank trucks bring water to the hotel every day from a town 60 kilometers (40 miles) away at a cost of 4,000 rupees (\$57) each. “Even a water tanker is proving difficult to get in the city. We are getting our supply because we entered into a contract with a supplier in September as the water taps started going dry,” Shankar said by phone. Chennai is India’s sixth-largest city with an estimated population of 10 million. It is a major destination for medical tourism, and Tamil Nadu state is a car manufacturing hub.

World

US Navy: Mine in tanker attack bears Iran hallmarks

U.S. NAVY 5TH FLEET BASE NEAR FUJAIRAH, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The limpet mines used to attack a Japanese-owned oil tanker near the Strait of Hormuz last week bore “a striking resemblance” to similar mines seen in Iran, a U.S. Navy explosives expert said Wednesday, stopping short of directly blaming Tehran for the assault.

Iran has repeatedly denied being involved in the June 13 attack on the Japanese tanker Kokuka Courageous and the Norwegian-owned Front Altair.

The comments by Cmdr. Sean Kido came as sailors showed reporters pieces of debris and a magnet the Navy says was used to attach an unexploded mine to the hull

of the Kokuka Courageous. U.S. authorities say the materials were left behind by Iran’s Revolutionary Guard when they spirited away the unexploded mine after the attack in the Gulf of Oman.

Iran, which has previously used mines against oil tankers in the crucial waterway in the 1980s, has also not acknowledged retrieving the mine.

Kido stressed that the damage to the Kokuka Courageous was “not consistent with an external flying object hitting the ship,” as the ship’s owner has contended happened during the attack.

“The damage we observed is consistent with a limpet mine attack,” Kido said.

Meanwhile, rockets struck near an oil-drilling site in Iraq’s southern Basra province



early Wednesday, including one that hit inside a compound housing energy giant Exxon Mobil and other foreign oil

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The attacks come against the

backdrop of heightened tensions between the U.S. and Iran following President Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw from Tehran’s nuclear deal with world powers a year ago.

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LGBT refugees allege harassment in Kenya, a rare safe haven

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Burundi national Nina Muregwa says she feels threatened again. After escaping death threats back home over her sexual identity the 17-year-old thought she had found a sanctuary in Kenya. Recent incidents, however, have left her scared for her life once more.

She and other LGBT refugees allege they have been harassed by police in recent weeks in Kenya, which is a rare regional haven for the gay community and yet maintains that gay sex is illegal. It is the only East African nation where someone can seek asylum and be registered as a refugee based on their LGBT status, the United Nations refugee agency says. It is not

clear how many are registered in Kenya.

Muregwa and 16 other refugees allege that five police officers arrested them at gunpoint at home and locked them up without charge earlier this month. After they were released two days later on June 10, they allege another group of police officers tried to arrest them but the U.N. refugee agency intervened.

Nairobi police chief Philip Ndolo told The Associated Press that the refugees were arrested for their own protection. He did not give details.

The refugees have now locked themselves in their two-bedroom house in the capital, Nairobi, saying they are too frightened to venture

out even for food because of threats from local residents.

Kenyan human rights activists say they saw this coming. They had warned that a closely watched High Court ruling last month upholding the criminalization of gay sex would bring a backlash against the LGBT community. Some Kenyans would now feel emboldened to act out, even with violence, said leading gay rights activist Eric Gitari.

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WORLD BRIEFS

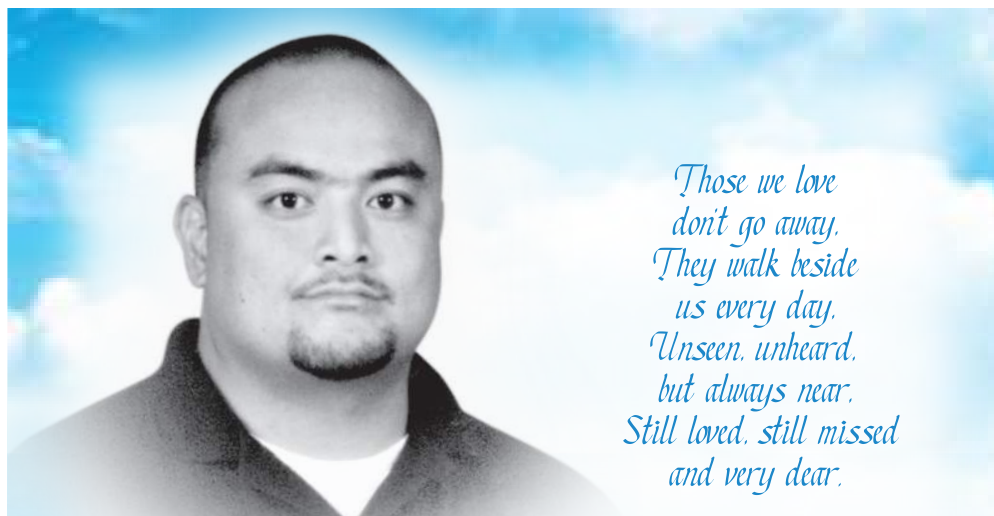
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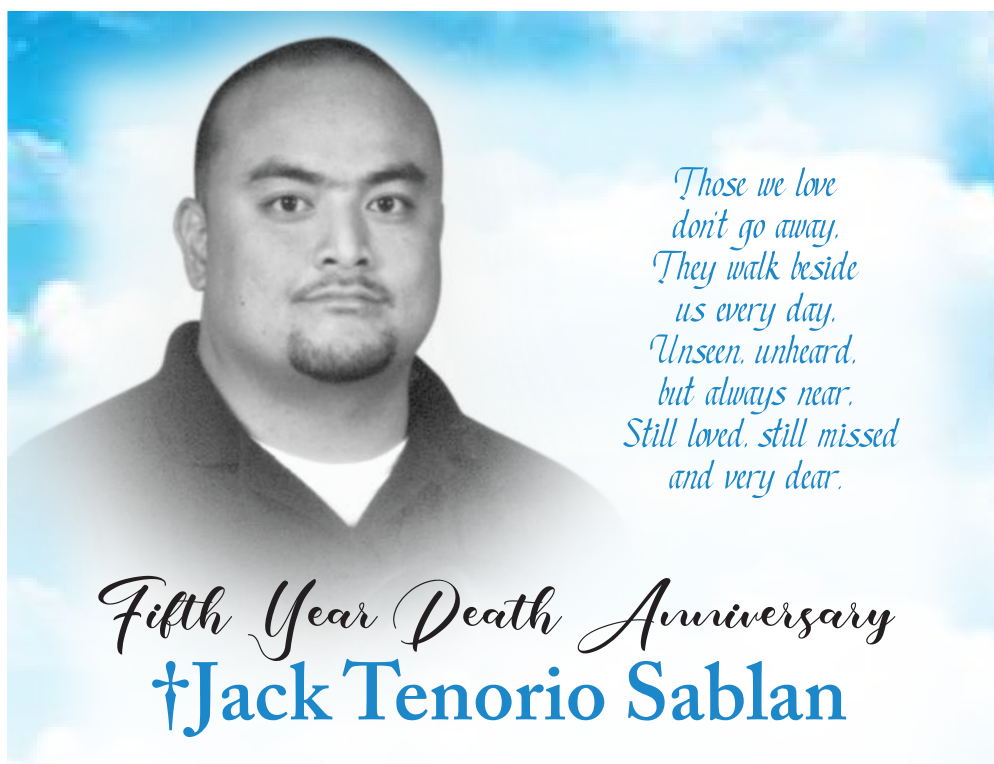
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The Family



Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Perfectly preserved head of Ice Age wolf found in Siberia

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian scientists have found the furry head of an Ice Age wolf perfectly preserved in the Siberian permafrost. The head of a wolf, which died 40,000 years ago, was discovered in the Russian Arctic region of Yakutia. Valery Plotnikov, a top researcher at the local branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, said the animal belonged to an ancient subspecies of wolf that lived at the same time as the mammoths and became extinct alongside them. Scientists said it was an adult, about 25% bigger than today's wolves, but did not say whether it was male or female. Plotnikov called the discovery unique because scientists previously only had found wolf skulls without tissues or fur, while this head has ears, a tongue and a perfectly preserved brain.

Police: Man faked heart attack while accomplice robbed store

MALDEN, Mass. (AP)—Police say a man faked a heart attack in a Massachusetts convenience store while his accomplice hopped over the counter to steal money from the register. Malden police on Facebook say they responded to the store Sunday afternoon on reports of a theft. Officers were told two white men entered together. Witnesses told police one “faked a heart attack” while the other grabbed the cash. Both suspects then fled. Police are looking for them. Police say that in addition to holding both men accountable for the robbery,

they also want to make sure the suspect's “heart problems” “have been taken care of by a medical professional.” Police posted surveillance video and images of the men, hoping the public will help identify them.

Police: Woman was drunk, but no DUI for toy truck joy ride

WALHALLA, S.C. (AP)—A South Carolina woman who police say was driving drunk will not be cited with a DUI because her vehicle of choice was a toy truck. News outlets quote police as saying that instead they charged 25-year-old Megan Holman with public intoxication. They say they spotted her cruising down the road in a Power Wheels electric toy truck after a caller reported a suspicious person on the street. Officers say she was driving about a mile (1.5 kilometers) from her home in Walhalla when they stopped her.

Woman trapped in St. Louis jail stairwell for 2.5 days

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Authorities say a woman was trapped in a St. Louis jail stairwell for more than two days after not understanding how to get out of the building. St. Louis Corrections Commissioner Dale Glass said the woman didn't appear to be suffering when she was found and refused to go to a hospital. Glass told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch that the woman was leaving the St. Louis Justice Center on June 5 after being arrested when she went through a fire exit door, which caused all doors on all floors to lock. Although the woman made noises, staff couldn't find her because she moved from floor to floor. They didn't search the fire

stairs. Staff finally saw her on June 7 looking through a window of one of the doors.

Urn with man's ashes stolen after funeral

YORK, Pa. (AP)—Family members say someone stole an urn with a man's ashes after his funeral in Pennsylvania. A service for 42-year-old Sam Abrecht was held over the weekend at the Salvation Army in York. His cremains were divided into three urns, one of which was to go to his mother. Family friend Sherrie Ritz tells WGAL-TV most people gathered in a backroom after the funeral and that's when the urn was taken. Ritz is asking the person to return it. Police are checking pawn shops.

Unicyclist completes 180-mile trek across Maine

BRUNSWICK, Maine (AP)—Thousands have ridden their bicycles in the three-day Trek Across Maine. But only one participant has accomplished the feat on a single wheel. Hugh Sharp from Cape Elizabeth, Maine, rode 180 miles (290 kilometers) on a unicycle in the annual fundraiser for the American Lung Association, which ended Sunday. His pace was slower than the other cyclists, so he had to pedal longer. The nurse anesthetist at Maine Medical Center was pedaling in honor of his father, who died two years ago from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The race ended on Father's Day. Riders started and ended in Brunswick, Maine, with overnight stops at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and Colby College in Waterville, Maine.



TIME-FREE ZONE

This undated file photo shows a cold winter's day in Tromsø, the main city of Norway's Arctic. Sitting about 70 km (43 miles) west of Tromsø, the island of Sommarøen, north of the Arctic Circle, has a population of about 350 people and fishery and tourism are the main industry. People on the remote island of Sommarøen, north of the Arctic Circle, on June 13, 2019, have asked Norwegian lawmaker if they can become the world's first time-free zone, getting rid of traditional business opening hours and introduce flexibility in school and working hours because the sun doesn't set for 69 days, from May 18 to July 26.

AP

Science & Technology

Facebook plans own currency

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Facebook already rules daily communication for more than 2 billion people around the world. Now it wants its own currency, too.

The social network unveiled an ambitious plan Tuesday to create a new digital currency similar to Bitcoin for global use, one that could drive more e-commerce on its services and boost ads on its platforms.

But the effort, which Facebook is launching with partners including PayPal, Uber, Spotify, Visa and Mastercard, could also complicate matters for the beleaguered social network. Facebook is currently under federal investigation over its privacy practices, and along with other technology giants also faces a new anti-

trust probe in Congress.

Creating its own globe-spanning currency—one that could conceivably threaten banks, national currencies and the privacy of users—isn't likely to dampen regulators' interest in Facebook.

“It's a bold and strategic move that has clear risks as well as opportunities tied to it,” said Wedbush Securities analyst Dan Ives. “This could raise further yellow flags as more regulators focus on Facebook.”

David Marcus, the head of Facebook's cryptocurrency operation, said in a tweet Tuesday that Facebook is creating a separate subsidiary, Calibra, to handle the new currency. He said feedback from customers has been “loud and clear” about keeping social media and

financial data separate.

“We understand we will have to earn your trust,” he wrote.

Facebook unveiled an ambitious plan Tuesday to create a new digital currency. One technology expert believes they must first “convince people to trust” them with their personal information in order for it to succeed. (June 18)

The digital currency, called Libra, is scheduled to launch in the next six to 12 months. Facebook is taking the lead on building Libra and its underlying technology; its more than two dozen partners will help fund, build and govern the system. Facebook hopes to raise as much as \$1 billion from existing and future partners to support the effort.

AP explains: Libra, Facebook's new digital currency

NEW YORK (AP)—Facebook is unveiling a digital currency called Libra as the company seeks to make its ads more valuable by enabling smoother transactions and payments online, particularly among those without credit cards or bank accounts.

Libra will use the same security and record-keeping principles as Bitcoin, the most popular digital currency system today. But unlike Bitcoin, Libra is backed by several traditional financial companies, including PayPal, Visa and Mastercard, and will base its value on multiple real-world currencies such as the U.S. dollar and the euro. Libra also faces additional scrutiny over privacy, given Facebook's poor record on the matter.

Here's a look at Libra and other cryptocurrencies.

WHAT'S A CRYPTOCURRENCY ANYWAY?

It's a form of digital cash that uses encryption technology to make it secure. Cryptocurrencies exist not as physical bills or coins but rather as lines of digitally signed computer code. Records are typically kept on ledgers known as blockchain.

People can store their cryptocurrency stashes in virtual wallets that resemble online bank accounts. Facebook is developing a wallet app for Libra; others will be able to as well.

As with other cryptocurrencies, people will be able to buy and sell libras on exchanges for traditional currencies. It's not clear what fees, if any, consumers will have to pay for such transfers,

although Facebook says they should be low.

WHY NOT USE BITCOIN?

Although Bitcoin has gotten a lot of attention, it isn't widely used. For one thing, its value fluctuates wildly, meaning that \$100 in bitcoins today might be worth \$300 a month from now—or \$2.50. Only a handful of merchants accept bitcoins as payments.

Facebook is hoping to keep the libra's value stable by tying it closely to established currencies. Unlike most other cryptocurrencies, the Libra will be backed by real-world bank deposits and government securities in a number of leading currencies.

Facebook is also recruiting partners ahead of time. Lyft, Uber and Spotify already have joined the Libra group. They will likely accept libras when the system launches. They'll also help fund, build and govern the system. That'll make Libra less of a free-for-all than Bitcoin. Facebook says Libra will embrace regulation, but it isn't providing many details on how.

With most cryptocurrencies, including Bitcoin, anyone can lend computing power to verify transactions and to prevent anyone spending the same digital coin twice. With Libra, the verifications will initially be managed by its founding companies, such as Facebook and PayPal. Facebook believes the closed approach will mean better security.

ARE CRYPTOCURRENCIES ANONYMOUS?

Although it's possible to trace

bitcoins and some other cryptocurrencies as they are spent, owners of accounts behind the transactions aren't necessarily known. That makes such currencies a favorite among certain cybercriminals. But it is sometimes possible to tie cryptocurrency transactions to a real person who has cashed out digital coinage into a traditional currency.

And if someone spends libras while logged onto Facebook, it's theoretically possible Facebook could tie it back to a real person.

Facebook says it won't use Libra data to target ads, but may share data “to keep people safe, comply with the law, and provide basic functionality.” Facebook is creating a subsidiary, Calibra, to try to keep the operations separate.

GETTING STARTED

Libra is scheduled to launch publicly in the first half of next year. Whether consumers will embrace it is another matter. Discounts potentially offered by Uber and other partners might be enough to get people to at least try the system. But many people find it easy enough to pay for goods and services online with credit and debit cards.

There could be greater appeal among people who don't have bank accounts. Libra could open up e-commerce to them.

Though Libra could be a way for Facebook to drive spending when people interact with Facebook ads, the company says the currency will be independent and won't require a Facebook account to use.

Life & Style

Lawsuit alleges Carrie Underwood copied 'Game On' NFL intro

NEW YORK (AP)—A songwriting team sued country singer Carrie Underwood, the NFL and NBC Wednesday,

saying they stole a song and "slightly modified" it to introduce "Sunday Night Football" to viewers last season.

The lawsuit in Manhattan federal court noted that Underwood's "Game On" even carried the same title as the song singer Heidi Merrill of Newport Beach, California, put on an internet music video two years ago.

The lawsuit sought unspecified damages, saying the copyright was violated on the song that had been pitched to Underwood's representatives in 2017.

The NFL and NBCUniversal Media LLC declined comment. Carrie Underwood's representatives did not immediately comment.

The plaintiffs are a songwriting team consisting of four individuals, including Merrill, from California, Tennessee and Sweden.

The lawsuit said Merrill assembled the group to create



Underwood

the song in 2016 as a follow to her Nebraska-themed football anthem "Cornhusker Strong."

It said they marketed the song, aiming to get it licensed for use in television broadcasts of sporting events.

Merrill pitched the song to Underwood's producer in August 2017 during a conference in Nashville, Tennessee, where Un-

derwood lives, the lawsuit said.

It said the producer referred Merrill to his assistant, who told her in an email in October 2017: "I'm sorry, we're going to have to pass."

The lawsuit claimed that the song that introduced 17 NFL Sunday night games through the season beginning in September 2018 "is substantially—even strikingly—similar, if not identical," to the song Underwood's team had rejected.

U2 guitarist won't get to build mansions on Malibu hillside

MALIBU, Calif. (AP)—A plan by U2 guitarist The Edge to build a cluster of mansions on a ridgeline above Malibu appears to be dead after California's highest court declined to consider his last-ditch appeal.

The musician, whose real name is David Evans, staged a 14-year legal fight to build five large, eco-friendly homes dubbed Leaves in the Wind in an undeveloped section of the Santa Monica Mountains west of Los Angeles.

The state Supreme Court decided last week not to review a lower court ruling, which denied approval to build on the land after the Sierra Club sued to block construction.

The lower court said the California Coastal Commis-

sion improperly granted Evans' 2015 permit.

The compound's green pitch didn't get very far with neighboring residents and environmental groups, which raised concerns about biological and visual effects in such sensitive habitat.

Sierra Club lawyer Dean Wallraff said Wednesday that the \$100 million development would have been a "scar" on an untouched hillside.

Evans' representatives didn't respond to requests for comment.

If Evans wants to pursue the building process again, he has to start at the beginning by reapplying to the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning.

Judge says R. Kelly's lawyers have week to answer lawsuit

CHICAGO (AP)—Attorneys for R. Kelly have one week to respond to a lawsuit alleging sex abuse or face losing the case.

Kelly's attorneys sought to put the lawsuit on hold while the singer fights sex-related felony charges. Associate Judge Moira Johnson on Wednesday agreed with lawyers for the woman who filed the lawsuit that Kelly needs to file an answer to the litigation.

Johnson gave Kelly's lawyers until June 26 to respond to the lawsuit in Cook County.

Kelly did not attend Wednesday's hearing in Chicago.

After the hearing, the attorneys for the woman said they expect the lawsuit will be delayed while the criminal case proceeds. However, they said it was improper for Kelly's attorneys to seek a delay before acknowledging the lawsuit.

The woman who brought the lawsuit is one of four women Kelly is charged with sexually abusing.

Ralph Lauren receives honorary knighthood in London

LONDON (AP)—Ralph Lauren has collected an accolade from Prince Charles and it's a doozy: Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for Services to Fashion.

The designer was presented with the insignia, bestowed by

Queen Elizabeth II, in a private ceremony Wednesday at Buckingham Palace.

A company statement says Lauren is the first American designer to be recognized with an honorary knighthood. Ralph Lauren Corp. has donated to a breast cancer research center in

London and plans to financially support a second center as well.

Lauren said via email he's always been inspired by the history, traditions and culture of the U.K. and considers the knighthood a "very special moment" as he celebrates 50 years in fashion.

Thief takes Marilyn Monroe statue from Hollywood gazebo

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Goodbye, Norma Jean?

Officials say someone climbed a more than two-story tall Hollywood public art piece and stole a statue of Marilyn Monroe.

The statue depicting Monroe in her iconic pose from the 1955 film "The Seven Year Itch" went missing early Monday from the "Four Ladies of Hollywood" gazebo.

Los Angeles Councilman Mitch O'Farrell says a witness saw someone climb

the gazebo on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and saw off the statue.

Los Angeles police say investigators have recovered fingerprints from the gazebo.

The gazebo was erected in 1994. It pays tribute to women in film, with depictions of Dolores Del Rio, Dorothy Dandridge, Mae West and Anna May Wong making up the structure's pillars.

Monroe, whose real name was Norma Jeane Mortenson, died in 1962.



WORLD PREMIERE

AP Characters Bo Peep, from left, Woody, Forky, Jessie and Buzz Lightyear pose at the world premiere of "Toy Story 4" on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at the El Capitan in Los Angeles.

Waiter's effort at small talk explodes into savage tirade

DEAR ABBY: Last week I was out with my family of 13 for dinner. My sister-in-law was sitting relaxed in her chair, stretching her back and extending her stomach. The waiter came over and, trying to make small talk, asked her, "What's the occasion? Are you pregnant?" My sister-in-law isn't pregnant, but her posture may have suggested it.

Well, my brother, her husband, went off on the man, calling him names, swearing, and causing a loud, uncomfortable scene. We all agreed the waiter was stupid to ask the question, but wasn't my brother wrong here? He embarrassed all of us, and I don't think there was any malicious intent on the part of the waiter. My brother stands behind his outburst and insists he wasn't wrong.

This has happened before, and I'm sure it will happen in the future. What's your suggestion for a better way to handle a situation like this, so maybe I can get through to my brother?

LOST MY APPETITE IN GEORGIA

DEAR LOST: The waiter should have quit after he asked if your party of 13 was celebrating a special occasion. To have asked whether your SIL was pregnant was a blunder, which I am betting was reflected in his tip. While I appreciate your brother's desire to "protect" his wife, he accom-

plished nothing positive by creating a scene and embarrassing the family.

Because you mentioned that this has happened before and may happen in the future, it's time for "the family" to suggest he get professional help for his anger issues. If this is how he behaves in public, I shudder to imagine what he's like in private.

DEAR ABBY: When my son was 9 he was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. He is now a college grad. Because I couldn't fix his diabetes, I have tried to fix everything else in his life, and it hasn't been pretty.

He was home for a visit the day his graduate school application was due. I bulldozed him into taking some punctuation advice on his letter of intent that turned out to be wrong. A few months later a rejection letter arrived, and I'm afraid my grammatical error caused it. I'm afraid his dreams were dashed because he trusted me. He doesn't think the mistake had anything to do with the rejection, but I suspect he's trying to protect my feelings because he's such a nice person.

How important is perfect grammar on a grad school letter of intent? If my son has an above-average GPA, research experience, above-average GRE scores, but a grammatical error in his essay, could that one error put him out of contention?

TRYING TO MEDDLE NO MORE

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

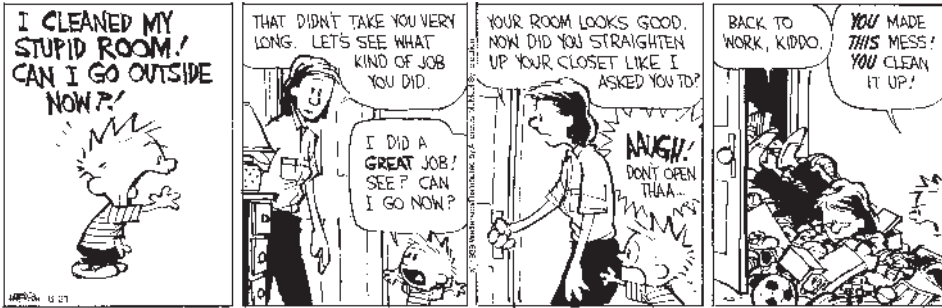
DEAR TRYING: I seriously doubt that a misplaced comma would cause your son to be rejected from graduate school if he had all the other necessary qualifications. Listen to what he's telling you, stop flogging yourself and, from now on, quit trying to bulldoze him and let him fly on his own. There is nothing to feel guilty about. With practice, you'll get the hang of it.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Lass

4 Choose

8 Beansies

12 Historic time

13 Actor's quest

14 Theater award

15 Contingency funds

17 Goddess of victory

18 Orange veggies

19 Pursuing

20 Cellist

22 Innocent one

24 New York canal

25 Misfortune

29 Balloon filler

30 Pal

31 Big D.C. lobby

32 Melancholy melodies

34 Alike (Fr.)

35 Aftermath

36 Condition

37 Of the Arctic

40 Chinese dynasty

41 Egg

42 Believed

46 Ganges wrap

48 Apprehend

49 BPOE members

50 Lectern locale

51 Sticky stuff

3 Small beetle

4 Teaser ad

5 Charged bits

6 The Browns, on scoreboards

7 Lock opener

8 Have a huddle

9 Slightly

10 Toll road

11 Crystal gazer

16 Like ganders

19 "Dear —"

20 Stew veggies

21 Operatic solo

22 Police ID

23 Tosses in

25 Nonsense

26 Attractive

27 "I smell —!"

28 Hardy cabbage

30 Sow's mate

33 Hindu teachers

34 Sicilian volcano

36 Prepares flour

37 Sit for a photo

38 Ellipse

39 Hide in the bushes

40 1502, in Old Rome

42 Brick carrier

43 "I — Rock"

44 Eastern "way"

45 "Game of Thrones" ailer

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-21

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jussie Smollett, 36; Prince William, 37; Brandon Flowers, 38; Chris Pratt, 40.

Happy Birthday: Your insight will be uncanny, and your ability to get things done second to none, but if you let others meddle in your affairs or bring you down, you'll end up letting negativity stop you from achieving your goals and the things you deserve. Control what's going on around you, and you can make this a year to remember. Your numbers are 4, 12, 22, 29, 35, 43, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An interaction you have with someone you are helping or have worked with in the past will help clear up a matter that caused you to be indecisive. Socialize or plan something special with someone you love. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make a move because it's a good idea, not due to an emotional matter. Stick to your original plan, and prepare to take on extra responsibility or work if that's what it will take to reach your destination. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An opportunity based on hearsay should be looked at carefully. Direct questions will help you decide the best action to take. Your charm and expressive way of dealing with people will put you in a position of high demand. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your intuition when it comes to what you share with whom. Not everyone will be able to keep a secret. It's best to play

it safe when dealing with peers and relatives. Strive to improve productivity and your financial future. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Open up about the way you feel and what you are willing to do. Listen to the response and observe the body language used, and you will be able to make an accurate assessment. Act according to what you perceive. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take care of unfinished business. Don't rely on someone to do a job for you. Take pride in your work for a job well done. Someone will use unorthodox methods to take advantage of you. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take time out to rejuvenate. Spending quality time with someone who makes you smile is recommended. Mix a little entertainment and romance into your day, and you will ease the stress caused by someone who is demanding. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get together with people who are supportive and can offer insight into a personal situation you face. Taking care of matters before it's too late will give you the edge you need to avoid personal loss. Play to win. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Bypass anyone pressuring you to do something that could get you into trouble. Set the record straight when dealing with issues involving meaningful relationships, love and plans. Avoid a sorrowful or awkward situation by being upfront. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Tie up loose ends before someone complains that you have neglected your duties. Being free and clear to do as you please will allow you to concentrate on something you've been looking forward to pursuing. Personal choices will lead to transformation. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stick to what and who you know. If you want to make changes, start with yourself. Trying to change someone else will lead to resistance. Charm and encouragement will help you gain favors. Make a positive change to your personal space. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Interacting with others is favored. Join forces, and you can bring about changes that matter. Trust in what you can do, not in someone who is enticing you with shenanigans. Don't jeopardize your status, position or reputation. ★★

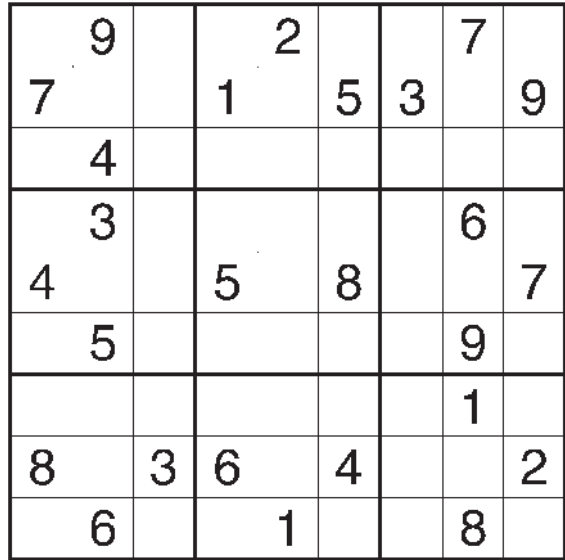
Birthday Baby: You are loyal, dedicated and alert. You are loving and resourceful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

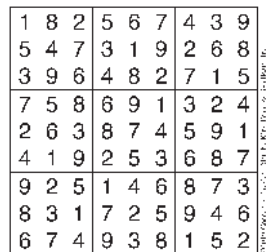


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

6/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

12/6

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BOSTON STRIP STEAK

Solution: 7 letters



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Aroma, BBQ, Beef, Blue, Boneless, Butter, Charcoal, Cilantro, Coat, Crispy, Crust, Feta, Fire, Flavor, Garlic, Grates, Grill, Heat, Herb, Lemon, Marbling, Marinade, Meat, Moist, Muscle, Mushroom, Oils, Onion, Pepper, Plate, Potato, Rest, Roast, Salad, Salt, Sandwich, Sauce, Saute, Seasoning, Shell, Sirloin, Slice, Smoky, Sprinkle, Tender, Thyme, Tomato

Yesterday's Answer: Political
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STUMPED?

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NOTICE OF BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS
The Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that Board Committees on Airport Facilities and Financial Affairs and Personnel Affairs will be holding special meetings on Tuesday, June 25, 2019, beginning 9:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located in the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan.

AGENDAS

JOINT AIRPORT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING	
I.	Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 05, 2019 – Airport Facilities Meeting and Financial Affairs Meeting)
II.	Public Comments
III.	Old Business:
1.	Solar Updates
2.	CPA Business Resource Guide
3.	RFP Concession Status
4.	Disability requirement for airlines
5.	Airport Inspections
6.	Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Budget
IV.	New Business:
1.	Commuter Access Road Paving – Design Services
2.	Star Marianas Air – Accounts Receivables
3.	Pagan Airstrip and Seaport
4.	Resolution pertaining to Navy Secretary's request for air space
5.	CUC Water well near Tandem Skydive
6.	Updated Airport Facilities Committee Report
7.	Updated Financial Affairs Committee Report
V.	Executive Session (if needed)
VI.	Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII.	Adjournment

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING	
I.	Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 05, 2019)
II.	Public Comments
III.	Old Business:
1.	Fitness Training Policy
2.	Travel policy – Per Diem calculations
a.	ARFF
3.	Organizational chart
b.	Ports Police
4.	Staff Development and Training Agreement
IV.	New Business:
1.	Committee Report
2.	Employee Policies:
a.	EEOC
b.	FMLA
V.	Executive Session (if needed)
VI.	Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII.	Adjournment

Persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the agenda items. A time limit may be imposed. for oral testimony.

Joseph M. Diaz Personnel Chair	Barrie C. Toves Airport Chair	Roman T. Tudela Finance Chair
-----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------

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Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256
Attorney for Petitioner.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	J Civil Action No. 19-0196
JOSE SATUR FITIAL,	J NOTICE OF HEARING and NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Deceased.	J Date: July 18, 2019
	J Time: 9:00 a.m.
	J Judge: Hon. Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT OR OF HIS ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, Paul R. Kaipat, has filed a Petition For Letters of Administration in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to NMI R. Prob. P 15.

A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on **July 18, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**, at the Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe, Saipan. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to NMI R. Prob. P 21, notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or his Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to Attorney Rene C. Holmes at the above indicated address.

Reference is hereby made to the petition for further particulars.

SO NOTICED this June 12, 2019.

/S/ JOSEPH N. CAMACHO, Associate Judge

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

PINOTE, DEXTER MARCON) FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION NO. 19-0274
Petitioner,) SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
vs.)
PINOTE, LUZVIMINDA PALAPAR)
Respondent,)

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 7807 SVRB Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 13th day of June, 2019.

/s/ Clerk of Court

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Requirements:
Must have Bachelor of Science in Accounting Degree or related field (maybe foreign equivalent). Three Years related work experience. Quick Books Accounting and Microsoft office application software proficiency required. Must be proficient in the preparation of all applicable CNMI and Federal taxes. Flexible, can work with minimal or no supervision and must be able to meet deadlines. Effective follow-up skills, demonstrate a highly professional attitude and personal presentation in all verbal and written communications. Knowledge in utilizing various office equipment and software. Willing to work flexible hours including holiday and weekends. Certificate from previous employer is required Valid Driver's license and Police Clearance required.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Bruised Scherzer leads Nats to sweep of Phillies



WASHINGTON (AP)—

With a broken nose, pronounced black eye and seven shutout innings, Max Scherzer provided a striking capper to the Washington Nationals' day-night doubleheader sweep of the Philadelphia Phillies.

Scherzer himself? He shrugged off his work in the Nationals' 2-0 victory Wednesday night as business as usual.

"Trust me, this thing looks a lot worse than it actually is," Scherzer said. "I felt zero pain. There's been plenty of other injuries where I felt a lot of pain and I've had to pitch through. I'll hang my hat on those starts, but tonight I felt zero pain. This is part of what you have to do. You take the ball every fifth time

"That's my responsibility to the team, to make sure I always post, and I knew I could post tonight."

Brian Dozier and Victor Robles hit solo homers to support Scherzer (6-5) as Washington won for the 16th time in 23 games. Philadelphia has dropped seven of its last nine and 12 of 18.

In the first game, Patrick Corbin struck out eight while allowing one run over seven innings as the Nationals earned a 6-2 victory in the delayed series opener after the teams were rained out Monday and Tuesday.

Scherzer bunted a ball off his face during batting practice Tuesday, but it didn't stop him from making his scheduled start. His injury may have provided an extra layer of intimidation in the form of a black eye more worthy of a boxing ring than a baseball diamond.

The three-time Cy Young Award winner sported a pronounced bruise arcing beneath his right eye, adding another hue to a glare that already featured one blue eye and one brown eye.

"Going out there and throwing, the only thing I had to deal with was the swelling underneath the eye," Scherzer said. "It was kind of jiggling around, and so in warmups I just had to get used to knowing what it was feeling like to throw the ball and just have that swelling."

Reds 3, Astros 2

In Cincinnati, Nick Senzel singled home the tying run with two outs in the ninth inning, and Jesse Winker followed with an RBI single as the Reds rallied to earn a rare sweep of the Houston Astros.

The Reds matched their season high with a fourth straight win. They also swept the Marlins in April.



Michael Brantley's two-run homer put Gerrit Cole in position for only his second career win over Cincinnati, but Roberto Osuna (3-1) couldn't close it out. Jose Peraza opened the rally with a double and came around on Senzel's hit. Winker finished it off with a single up the middle.

Yankees 12, Rays 1

In New York, Gary Sánchez hit a three-run homer to help chase Cy Young Award winner Blake Snell in the first inning, CC Sabathia got his 250th career win and the Yankees thumped the Tampa Bay Rays to complete a three-game sweep.

Gleyber Torres added a grand slam during a six-run seventh inning, and New York three-hit Tampa Bay to win its fifth in a row and extend its lead the AL East over the second-place Rays to 3 1/2 games. Tampa Bay was swept for the second time this season—the other came against Boston in April.

Snell (4-6) walked four, gave up two hits and was charged with six runs while getting one out on 39 pitches in the shortest start of his career.

Padres 8, Brewers 7

In San Diego, Franmil Reyes hit a go-ahead, three-run homer in the seventh and Eric Hosmer added a two-run shot for the Padres, who overcame three homers by Milwaukee to sweep the Brewers.

Reyes' shot to right-center, his 20th, came off Jeremy Jeffress (1-1) after Manny Machado hit a leadoff single and Hunter Renfroe walked.

Christian Yelich hit his MLB-leading 27th homer and Ryan Braun homered, doubled and drove in three runs for the Brewers.

Athletics 8, Orioles 3

In Oakland, Chris Bassitt took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and won for the first time in more than three weeks as the Athletics handed Baltimore its eighth straight loss.

Josh Phegley had a three-run homer, Marcus Semien extended his hitting streak to 16 games and Stephen Piscotty doubled twice to help the A's complete a three-game sweep.

Bassitt (4-3) allowed two hits and two runs in 5 2/3 innings, striking out six and walking three. The right-hander didn't give up a hit until Jonathan Villar lined a 3-2 pitch for a single with one out in the sixth.

Mariners 8, Royals 2

In Seattle, Domingo Santana hit two home runs in a game for the third time this season, Marco Gonzales won his third straight start and the Mariners avoided an embarrassing series sweep over the Kansas City Royals.

Santana, who had five RBIs, and Daniel Vogelbach hit back-to-back homers in the first inning to give the

Mariners a 4-0 lead and they went on to snap Kansas City's three-game winning streak. The Mariners had been outscored 15-4 by the Royals in the first two games of a series between last-place teams.

Pirates 8, Tigers 7

In Pittsburgh, Bryan Reynolds hit a three-run homer in the sixth inning to complete the Pirates' rally from a six-run deficit.

With the Pirates trailing 7-5, Reynolds sent a knuckle curve from Nick Ramirez (3-2) 421 feet to left-center for his sixth homer of the season, driving in Kevin Newman and Adam Frazier.

Felipe Vázquez retired the side in order in the ninth for his 17th save.

Braves 7, Mets 2

In Atlanta, Josh Donaldson hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the sixth inning, Freddie Freeman launched an early two-run shot and the Braves beat the New York Mets.

The NL East-leading Braves are 14-4 in June, best in the majors. They top the big leagues in runs, homers and RBIs this month and have outscored opponents 43-12 in going 5-0 in rubber games at home this season.

Freeman blooped a pop-fly single to begin the sixth, Atlanta's first hit since his homer in the first off Steven Matz (5-5). Donaldson followed with his 14th home run, sixth in his last nine games, before

Austin Riley doubled and scored on Ozzie Albies' double to make it 5-2.

That chased Matz, who allowed five runs on six hits and lost for the first time in nine career starts against the Braves.

Angels 11, Blue Jays 6

In Toronto, Mike Trout hit two home runs, including his sixth career grand slam, and had a career-best seven RBIs as the Los Angeles Angels beat the Blue Jays.

Justin Upton also homered for the Angels, who have won all six meetings with the Blue Jays this season and 18 of the last 24 in Toronto.

Trout, who finished 3 for 6, flied out in the sixth, struck out looking at a full count pitch in the eighth, and had an RBI single with the bases loaded in the ninth.

It was the first seven-RBI game by an Angels batter since Torii Hunter did it against Kansas City on July 4, 2010.

Trout now has 22 homers, tying him with New York's Edwin Encarnacion for the American League lead. Trout has hit 10 home runs in his past 19 games.

Indians 10, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Jason Kipnis hit two home runs, going back-to-back with Roberto Pérez during a five-run first inning, and the Cleveland Indians beat the Rangers.

The Indians have won 10 of

Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer throws to the Philadelphia Phillies in the first inning of the second baseball game of a doubleheader, Wednesday, June 19, 2019, in Washington.

their last 14 games. They have hit nine home runs in winning two of the first three games of a four-game series.

Kipnis pulled a three-run homer that cleared the Texas bullpen in right-center and gave Cleveland a 4-0 lead in the top of the first. Pérez followed by slicing an opposite-field homer that landed just inside the right-field foul pole.

Red Sox 9, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Eduardo Rodríguez picked up Boston's bullpen a night after a 17-inning loss, Brock Holt drove in three runs and the Red Sox beat the Minnesota Twins.

Rodríguez (8-4) allowed four runs on eight hits, but more important, he lasted seven innings after the Red Sox used eight relievers in Tuesday's marathon.

Boston scored three runs in the second, fifth and eighth innings to win for the seventh time in eight games. The AL Central-leading Twins have dropped three of four and lost a home series for just the second time this season.

Kyle Gibson (7-4) couldn't lighten the load on Minnesota's bullpen.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East

	W	L	Pct	GB
NY Yankees	46	27	.630	—
Tampa Bay	43	31	.581	3.5
Boston	41	35	.539	6.5
Toronto	26	48	.351	20.5
Baltimore	21	53	.284	25.5

Central

Minnesota	48	25	.658	—
Cleveland	39	34	.534	9
Chi White Sox	35	37	.486	12.5
Detroit	26	44	.371	20.5
Kansas City	25	49	.338	23.5

West

Houston	48	27	.640	—
Texas	39	35	.527	8.5
Oakland	39	36	.520	9
LA Angels	38	37	.507	10
Seattle	32	46	.410	17.5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East

Atlanta	44	31	.587	—
Philadelphia	39	34	.534	4
Washington	35	38	.479	8
NY Mets	35	39	.473	8.5
Miami	26	46	.361	16.5

Central

Chi Cubs	40	33	.548	—
Milwaukee	40	34	.541	0.5
St. Louis	38	35	.521	2
Cincinnati	34	38	.472	5.5
Pittsburgh	33	40	.452	7

West

LA Dodgers	49	25	.662	—
Colorado	39	34	.534	9.5
San Diego	38	37	.507	11.5
Arizona	38	37	.507	11.5
San Francisco	31	40	.437	16.5

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zion center of attention at NBA draft



NEW YORK (AP) — Zion Williamson smiled his way through nearly half an hour of questions, trying to portray himself like any player just hoping to be drafted.

Suddenly, a tall, thin newcomer pushed his way to the front of the shoulder-to-shoulder swarm surrounding Williamson and shot down that idea.

“What does it feel like,” Duke teammate RJ Barrett asked, “to be the best prospect since LeBron James?”

Williamson has similar hype. Soon, he can start showing if he has the game to match.

The powerhouse power forward will almost certainly be doing it in the uniform of the New Orleans Pelicans, who hold the No. 1 pick Thursday night at Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

NBA teams are discouraged from announcing who they will pick, and the Pelicans confirmed nothing to Williamson when he visited recently.

“They just told me that maybe they’ll draft me and

I’m a good player or something,” Williamson said. Maybe?

It would be one of the biggest surprises anyone in the NBA conjured up in years if the Pelicans passed on a player whose combination of size, speed and skill calls to mind James and few others. Listed at 6-foot-7 and 285 pounds, Williamson averaged 22.6 points and 8.9 rebounds while shooting 68% from the field and joining Kevin Durant and Anthony Davis as the only freshmen to be voted national player of the year by The Associated Press.

His sledgehammer slams were good for college, but Williamson wants to be known for more than his above-the-rim game in the pros. In fact, he isn’t eager to take part in the Slam Dunk Contest.

Instead, he’s been improving his 3-point shot, and Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski noted that Williamson was previously a perimeter player before bulking up and becoming a force around the basket.

“He’s still only 18 years



old,” Krzyzewski said on his SiriusXM radio show. “And as good of an athlete—he’s a top percentile athlete in the world, not just in the game of basketball. He’s that level of young man.”

No wonder Pelicans fans

are so eager to get him. Williamson said he found New Orleans to be welcoming when he walked around the city, and the locals should love him even more now after the team agreed over the weekend to trade Davis to the Lakers to

play with James.

“The city seems very excited if I come there,” Williamson said.

Memphis has the No. 2 pick and an apparent opening at point guard for Murray State’s Ja Morant after agreeing to trade Mike Conley to Utah on Wednesday. Barrett is hoping he’ll go to the New York Knicks with the third pick, and whoever lands at No. 4 is set to be Williamson’s teammate because the Lakers included the pick in the package for Davis.

Teams drafting beyond that should feel confident about their chances for success after a season in which the Toronto Raptors won the NBA title with a roster featuring no lottery picks, and Giannis Antetokounmpo emerged as an MVP finalist after being taken with the No. 15 pick in 2013. So, drafting smart seems more important than

AP
Zion Williamson, a freshman from Duke, attends the NBA Draft media availability, Wednesday, June 19, 2019 in New York. The basketball draft will be held Thursday, June 20.

drafting high.

Still, the season-long attention on Williamson dwarfed nearly everything else, so all eyes will be on him Thursday night as he walks onto the stage to greet Commissioner Adam Silver. Williamson called himself a simple guy, so maybe he won’t wear the type of flashy suit that it is the usual draft-night dress code; the striped sweater he wore Wednesday was certainly plain enough.

His game definitely isn’t.

“For his size, he can get everywhere he wants on the floor,” said De’Andre Hunter of national champion Virginia. “He’s just a very strong, dominant player.”

Williamson doesn’t seem caught up in the hype, seeing himself more as a team player than franchise savior. He wasn’t expecting to be the No. 1 option at Duke and isn’t lobbying for the job in New Orleans.

“I don’t really look at the expectations,” Williamson said. “I just want to win at the end of the day and I’m just going to try to be the best version of myself, and whatever the team needs me to do I’m going to be willing to do it.”

But his standards are high, responding to a question about his goals by saying they include “MVP, Rookie of the Year and eventually possibly Defensive Player of the Year. Hall of Famer.”

Not even James has done all that.

Grizzlies trade Conley to Jazz for 3 players

MEMPHIS—Another major NBA domino has fallen.

The Memphis Grizzlies are trading point guard Mike Conley to the Utah Jazz for Kyle Korver, Jae Crowder, Grayson Allen, the 23rd pick in Thursday’s draft and a protected first-round pick in 2020, a person with knowledge of the deal confirmed to USA TODAY Sports on Wednesday. The person spoke under the condition of anonymity because the trade had not yet been announced.

Conley, 31, is one of the

best, most consistent point guards in the league, and his addition shows that Utah is looking to take another step forward in the now wide-open Western Conference. The Jazz have made the playoffs three years in a row, but they lost in the first round to Houston in April, winning just one game.

Conley, who signed a five-year, \$153 million deal with Memphis in the summer of 2016, will be paired alongside rising star Donovan Mitchell in Utah’s backcourt.

Conley missed most of the 2017-18 season with a heel injury, but returned last season and played in 70 contests, posting a career-high 21.1 points per game.

The Grizzlies, meanwhile, are in the midst of a rebuild, and they’re expected to select another point guard—Murray State star Ja Morant—in Thursday’s draft.

This marks the official end of the Grit-N-Grind era in Memphis, as Conley, Marc Gasol, Zach Randolph and Tony Allen are all no longer

with the organization. Conley has played all 12 of his NBA seasons in Memphis, and he leaves as the franchise leader in total points, assists, steals and games played.

Conley took to Twitter shortly after the news broke to thank Memphis.

He tweeted: “What more can I say about my city! You guys made me the man I am today! Memphis is home. Always! Time for another chapter! Excited to give all I have to The Jazz and Salt Lake City!”

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Despite win in opener, questions remain for USMNT

MINNESOTA—Playing against a country rated 177th (of 211) in the FIFA world rankings was never going to serve as the magic elixir to cure all symptoms and obviate all fears for the US men's national team, especially the ones diagnosed following a pair of entirely disappointing friendly defeats to Jamaica and Venezuela.

It wasn't perfect and head coach Gregg Berhalter may be disappointed his side didn't find the back of the net more times. But it sure felt good to see the USMNT plunder four goals against Guyana in their victorious Gold Cup Group D opening match. Posting a shut-out wasn't bad, either.

But Berhalter's reign won't be judged on Gold Cup group-stage games against minnows. It was the bare minimum. Anything short of a comprehensive victory would have triggered a sky-is-falling meltdown, particularly after how a shorthanded Mexico demolished Cuba 7-0 a few days prior.

All that said, some data can still be analyzed from the United States' first competitive match in 20 months.

Christian Pulisic has to take over the squad. And he seemed to embrace that on Tuesday night. He's undisputedly the best player on the squad at the moment, something he wasn't in his time at Borussia Dortmund, nor in his first run with the national team. As such, he carries more expectation and responsibility, both to perform consistently and also be a leader.

From the opening whistle,



Guyana goalie Akel Clark stops a shot on goal by United States' Gyasi Zardes (9) with Guyana's Matthew Briggs (20) and Liam Gordon (13) defending during the second half of a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match Tuesday, June 18, 2019, in St. Paul, Minn.

Pulisic was demonstrative in his movements, confident in his touches and didn't drift out of the game until his substitution after 60 minutes. For young wingers—a position he played for Dortmund and is expected to play with Chelsea—that last part can be tricky. The

U.S. attack won't float on if Pulisic goes missing.

What will he look like against Panama, then Trinidad and Tobago in group play. What about Mexico, should the two regional pow-

erhouses meet in the final? How will he deal with the full-on CONCACAF star treatment from opponents should they deem he's worthy to be kicked at every chance?

It's a concerning trend of late. Would Panama or T&T capitalize on a number of

loose passes in their own half? Breaking lines from the defensive third to midfield, then midfield to the attacking third, weren't always smooth, the former of which specifically when Guyana focused on man-marking Michael Bradley. Things started to break down when he wasn't quarter-

backing possession.

That's why it was so important that Pulisic demanded the ball, seeking not just the creative burden but helping out as much as he could in building possession. Jozy Altidore's underrated hold-up play should help on this front whenever he makes his tournament debut.

Arriola did what Arriola does: High work-rate, unselfish, solid (if unspectacular) for much of the game, and even opened the scoring.

Boyd's ceiling is higher, in part because he is more unknown, but he showed real upside with regularity against Guyana. Daring forward passes, direct runs and a pair of goals is an injection of creativity Berhalter's side have been lacking on the wing as long as Pulisic has featured through the center.

Keeping in mind the caveat above regarding Guyana's standing in the FIFA rankings, it's still a strong Gold Cup debut for the 24-year-old.

So, on to Trinidad and Tobago in Cleveland on Saturday, out to exorcise the demons from 20 months ago. Oddly enough, the last time the US won a competitive match 4-0? The game before that fateful day in Couva.

Messi saves Argentina from defeat to Paraguay

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (AP)—Lionel Messi and goalkeeper Franco Armani saved Argentina from another Copa America defeat on Wednesday.

Messi scored a second-half equalizer and Armani later saved a penalty kick as Argentina salvaged a 1-1 draw with Paraguay at the Mineirao Stadium, leaving the team last in its group but still in contention for a spot in the knockout stage of the South American competition.

After Richard Sanchez opened the scoring for Paraguay in the 37th minute, Messi converted a 57th-minute penalty kick awarded by video review following a handball by a defender inside the area.

Derlis Gonzalez had a chance to put Paraguay ahead again five minutes later, but Armani saved his shot from the penalty spot.

Argentina, which had opened with a 2-0 loss to Co-

lombia, stayed with one point from two matches in Group B. Qatar, which lost 1-0 to Colombia earlier Thursday, also had one point but was ahead on the tiebreakers. Paraguay stayed with two points and Colombia had six, already secured in the knockout stage.

Argentina, whose last group-stage elimination in the Copa America was in 1983, will need a win against guest Qatar on Sunday to advance to the next round.

The top two teams in each of the three groups advance, along with the best two third-place finishers.

Argentina, trying to end a title drought of 26 years, started the match with four changes to the team that lost to Colombia in the opener. Among those replaced were veterans Sergio Aguero and Angel Di Maria. Their substitutes were Lautaro Martinez and Rodrigo De Paul.

Midfielder Roberto Pereyra and defender Milton Casco

also joined the starting lineup, replacing Guido Rodriguez and Renzo Saravia.

The changes by coach Lionel Scaloni didn't do much to improve Argentina, which again struggled to create scoring chances.

Messi, in his fifth Copa America, played on the right flank, with Giovanni Lo Celso and Leandro Paredes taking over the playmaking responsibilities at midfield.

The first half showed Paraguay with the best chances on counterattacks, with Gonzalez nearly opening the scoring with a shot that deflected off a defender in the 30th minute.

Paraguay finally got on the board when Miguel Almiron ran past two Argentine defenders and sent a low cross to Sanchez, who hit a firm shot into the corner.

Paraguay kept the pressure until halftime, but Messi and Argentina improved significantly after the break, with Aguero and Di Maria helping in attack.

Mickelson, Watson look to add to wins at Travelers



CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—

Phil Mickelson joked Wednesday that TPC River Highlands is clearly a left-handed golf course.

Mickelson and fellow lefty Bubba Watson have combined to win five times in Connecticut since 2001. That's 28 percent of the tournaments played in Cromwell this century.

The two will be playing in the same Travelers Championship for the first time on Thursday, part of a field that includes 16 of the top 30 golfers in the world rankings.

Mickelson won back-to-back in 2001 and 2002, but hasn't played the tournament since 2003. Watson, the defending champion, will be looking for his fourth win here since 2010.

There have been eight other top-10 finishes by left-handers since the tourna-

ment moved to TPC River Highlands in 1984. Watson accounts for three of those, tying for sixth in 2008, tying for second in 2012, and finishing fourth in 2013. Brian Harman had a third-place finish in 2015 and was tied for sixth in 2018. Steve Flesch tied for fifth in 2000 and tied for ninth in 2006. And Nick O'Hern finished third in 2007.

The PGA Tour says about 5 percent of the golfers on tour are southpaws. So why are they so successful in Connecticut?

"I don't know why that is," Mickelson said. "Bubba has played some great golf in his career and he hits the ball long and this course rewards that. When you're on, you can make birdies and eagles and that's the way Bubba likes to play. It's the way I've always liked to play."

But, there might be a bit more to it than that.

Ron Scheyd, the head

professional at TPC River Highlands, said the course really does set up well for left-handers, especially on the longer holes.

"We have a lot of left-to-right dogleg holes," he said. "For a left-handed golfer, hitting that left-to-right draw shot, the ball is typically going to travel farther. If a right-handed player hits that same shot, from left-to right, the ball usually doesn't go quite as far."

Watson said he's not sure it's a left-handed thing, but he's always felt that the course favors his game. His favorite holes, he said, are actually the ones that go right to left, where he can cut the ball into the pin.

"For me, it's just the perfect blend, where I can hit shots," he said. "There are about four holes that get into my head, tough off the tee. Other than that, it's a pretty generous golf course for me, the way I play golf."

England gets back at Japan to top Group D

NICE, France (AP) — For the first time since Bryan Robson, Peter Shilton and Glenn Hoddle, an England team finished a World Cup group stage with a 3-0 record.

Ellen White scored both goals, and the Lionesses roared into the Round of 16 with a 2-0 victory over Japan on Wednesday night to win the group.

Phil Neville's England squad will play a third-place team on Sunday and with a victory would advance to a quarterfinal against Norway or Australia. The victory over Japan came after Neville made eight changes to the starting lineup.

"Since Phil's come in he's changed different combinations of the squad and I think that's why this squad is so competitive and so great," White said. "We can change the squad and show that we can play together and we've got so many different combinations and styles and talented players and that's really important going into a tournament that's really long."

"We can use all 23 players so that's exciting and it's just great to have such talented players that can perform on



the biggest stage."

Japan finished second with a 1-1-1 record and will play the Netherlands or Canada in the Round of 16. Japan played England in the 2015 semifinals and won, 2-1.

The 30-year-old White scored in the 14th minute when she chipped the ball past

goalkeeper Saki Kumagai after being sent clear by Georgia Stanway. White's third goal on the tournament came in the 84th minute following a through-ball by Karen Carney.

White scored in the opening win over Scotland, then was dropped to the bench against Argentina.

"We've just got to give him a headache," White said with a laugh, describing all the players pushing to start. "For us it's just about trying to perform and play well and he's got the hard job to do."

Neville is likely to stick with his rotation policy for Sunday's match although he

England's Jodie Taylor, left, and Japan's Hina Sugita, right, challenge for the ball during the Women's World Cup Group D soccer match at the Stade de Nice in Nice, France, Wednesday, June 19, 2019.

admitted he might not make as many changes.

"It depends on what team we're playing," he said. "There are certain players who are our experts in certain games. We need to know which team we're playing, then decide how

they play, how we're going to beat them and see the players which fit the profile the best."

"That's what rotation is about. It's not about throwing 23 players into a hat and pulling out 11. We strategically plan each rotation. Sometimes if you make more than five, you suffer in the rhythm and the flow and I think we did that tonight."

Trailing by a goal, Japan almost scored when substitute Yuika Sugawara volleyed narrowly past the left post.

"We managed to get through to the knockout stage, and the things we should do have been defined in our past matches," Japan coach Asako Takakura said. "We need to be very prepared for the next round."

Argentina 3, Scotland 3

Florencia Bonsegundo converted a penalty kick in the fourth minute of second-half stoppage time on her second attempt, and Argentina overcame a three-goal deficit in the final 30 minutes for a draw against Scotland.

SEMIS

From Page 32

taking the final semis ticket after ousting Pacific Eco, 72-71, last Saturday in Susupe.

Pacific Eco bagged the last Final Four berth in Group B to join Real Deal, Loving Hands, and Lakay. Group A, on the other hand, has DC, Alberto's Catering, Brabu, and *Marianas Variety*.

All eight teams will see action this weekend with Lakay and Real Deal playing in the first semis game at 6pm tomorrow. In the second match at 7pm, DC will take on Brabu, while Loving Hands will battle Far East in the last game of the triple-header at 8pm. On Sunday, Alberto's will duel *Marianas Variety* at 6pm. Mervin Sahagun towed Far East to the semis after scoring 27 points, including 11 markers in the fourth quarter. Jun Rueda, Patrick Salalila, and

Scotland built a 3-0 lead on goals by Kim Little in the 19th minute, Jenny Beattie in the 49th and Erin Cuthbert in the 69th, but Argentina became the first team at a Women's World Cup to get a point after trailing by three goals.

Milagros Menéndez scored on a counterattack in the

74th minute and Bonsegundo's long-range shot five minutes later hit the crossbar, bounced down and had enough backspin to go off the fingertips of goalkeeper Lee Alexander and across the line.

Sophie Howard had just entered the game when she slid into a leg of Aldana Cometti, who was streaking into the penalty area. After a lengthy video review, North Korean referee Ri Hyang-ok awarded the penalty kick. Alexander dived to stop the kick by Bonsegundo, who could not get the rebound in. But another video review showed Alexander came off her line before the kick.

Given the second chance, Bonsegundo kicked the ball to the right of the keeper, who dived left.

Round of 16 shaping up

The teams that have officially qualified for the Round of 16 through Monday's action are: France; Norway; Germany; Spain; China; Italy; England; Japan; Netherlands; Canada; U.S.; and Sweden

No matchups are set yet, but Norway, France and Spain are on one side of the bracket, while Germany is on the other. The expectation is for France and the U.S. to meet in the quarterfinals, assuming the USWNT continues to win.

CNMI

From Page 32

Only the Top 2 teams in each pool after four games will advance to the playoffs and the eventual champion in the tournament will head to the World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania in August.

The teams in Group A were the same countries that the CNMI faced last year. The Commonwealth lost to three

of them and won against Indonesia. Last year's squad then defeated New Zealand in the ranking game.

"We don't know if we will be facing the same players in South Korea, but regardless, we just have to play our own game and not take any teams for granted," Gregorio T. Camacho said.

Evangelista, one of the only two players on the squad who played in South Korea last

year, echoed their manager's thoughts and at the same time reminded his teammates not to get intimidated by the favored squads in the World Series qualifier.

"We can't underestimate any teams even if we beat them last year. South Korea will be tough to beat, but once you're at the field, you must not think about that and instead be confident that all things are possible," Evangelista said.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI's Lillian Podziewski, left, attempts to deflect the ball kicked by coach Luem Khen Koo during their practice session at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville yesterday.

younger and younger, so they need experience, exposure so they will continue to get better," Koo said.

Podziewski, who will be suiting up for the U19 crew

in the Marianas Cup, said the training camp will give the team the opportunity to work on their chemistry.

"We will be together for nearly three weeks and that's

a lot of time to improve our chemistry on and off the pitch. Being off-island will also allow us to focus our attention solely on soccer," Podziewski said.

Meanwhile, some U15 players in the training camp will also play in the Marianas Cup, while majority of them will represent the CNMI in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation Festival in South Korea.

The EAFF event will run from Aug. 4 to 10 at the Mokpo International Football Center.

"Our U15 players will have their hands full in the EAFF event, as all 10 member-countries will be represented in South Korea. Though it is just a festival, the games and the players will be tough and our girls need to keep up, so this training camp in the Philippines will give them the opportunity to get ready for the difficult battle ahead," Ito said.

NATIONAL

From Page 32

The CNMI bets will be facing Guam for the second time this year, as the two teams both played in the Jockey Club Girls International Youth Invitational Football Tournament 2019 in Hong Kong last March.

"We lost to Guam, 2-3, and we want to recover from that defeat. We will be going up against familiar faces and hopefully our girls learned a lot from that loss in Hong Kong and will get the win this time," Ito said.

Koo, who presided over the group's last practice at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville yesterday, liked what he is seeing with the team.

"They are progressing each day. And this training camp—a longer one—will definitely sharpen their individual and team skills. Every time the players go off-island, they learn something. Also, CNMI national players are getting



**Bruised
Scherzer leads
Nats to sweep
of Phillies**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**England
gets back at
Japan to top
Group D**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI Majors All-Star Team all set

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Majors All-Star Team put on the final touches in its preparation for the 2019 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

"We are ready," said manager Gregorio T. Camacho, who left Saipan early this morning for the tournament in South Korea and was joined on the trip by players Ezra Ada, Albert Adriano, Justin Camacho, Casey Chambers, Damien Herman Cruz, Joey Vincent Dela Cruz, Austin Diaz,



Achilles Evangelista, Noah Iguel, Pattylyn Mendiola, Isaiah Mesa, Dylan Santos, Greg Tebit, and Melvin John Tudela and coaches Anthony Tenorio and Calvani Deleon Guerrero.

The CNMI Majors All-Star Team will be playing at the Hwaseong Dream Park in Seoul from June 23 to 30 and is in Pool A with defending champion and host South Korea, China, Indonesia, and Hong Kong. Pool B has last year's runner-up Chinese-Taipei, the Philippines, Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Thailand.

See CNMI on Page 31



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players and coaches of the CNMI Majors All-Star Team gather for a group photo yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

National players to toughen up



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI national U15 and U19 players pose for a photo before their practice session at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville yesterday.

The CNMI's national football team players are heading to the Philippines to sharpen up, as they prepare for the 2019 Marianas Cup.

Twenty-seven players in the U15 and U19 division will leave Saipan tomorrow for the June 22 to July 11

training camp at the Tuloy Foundation's XO Field in Alabang. The group is made up of Mia Carreon, Britany Wally, Guine Borja, Emalyn and Mary Joy Aniana, Jerlyn Castillo, Katrina Costales, Khristelle Itaas, Winneb Echavez, Jenny and Julie Capayas, Lillian Podziewski, Sharmaine Francisco, Julianne Hall, Marinel Falalimpa, Nathanette Blas, Jannah Casarino, Christina Atalig, Stephanie Flores, Allyssya Angeles, Aubrey and Audrey Castro, Sum-



mer Manahane, Rizza Relucio, Pia Ngewakl, and Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez. Joining the U15 and U19 players are head coach Luem Khen Koo, team manager and assistant coach Angie Ito, assistant manager Yu Hung Lee, assistant coaches Irish Pagarao and Jimmy Tang, and physiotherapist Hazel Mabasa. The U.S.-based Gianna Griffin is also on the squad and will join her U19 teammates at the training camp on July 2.

"After winning the Marianas Cup

on Saipan last year, there is definitely pressure on the team. We need this kind of training to withstand that pressure, as we want to keep the title when we face Guam next month (July 20)," Ito said.

"The training will not only help the players get physically ready, but mentally as well, as mental toughness is somehow our weakness because we have such a young and inexperienced squad," the team manager added.

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Semis cast in Civic caging complete

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The two groups in the 2019 Civic Center Basketball League are down to four teams each with Far East

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DC's Mii Tekopua takes off for a shot against a Hoops defender during their playoff game in the Civic Center caging in Susupe last weekend. DC is in the semis and will play against Brabu tomorrow.